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Islamic Affairs

Brotherhood Official Urges No Confrontation

NC1106152694 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Jun 94 p 5

[Article by Muslim Brotherhood Deputy General Guide Mustafa Mashhur: "Brothers, Seek God's Aid and Endure."]

[Text] Islam is not a religion of individuals but a religion of a united nation, joined by one qibla [direction of prayer]. It is like one body and for this reason, the form of address in the Koran is illustrated by God Almighty's words: "O Ye Who Believe."

The prophet, may God's peace and prayers be with him, said: "He who shows no concern for the affairs of Muslims is not one of them."

Now we see Muslims everywhere being persecuted, driven from their homes, imprisoned, tortured, even killed, and the honor of their women is violated. No one moves to defend them. Contrast this with the example of the woman who, facing aggression during the rule of al-Mu'tasim [Abbasid caliph], shouted "I appeal to al-Mu'tasim". And the caliph sent an army to defend her. The cause of today's events is that there is no Islamic state or caliphate to defend the Muslims. The Islamic nation's union was broken when the caliphate was overthrown. This caused Imam [Hasan] al-Banna to form the Muslim Brotherhood and proclaim its two goals:

First, the Islamic homeland must be freed from all foreign domination, this being a natural human right that is denied only by an unjust ruler or tyrannical oppressor.

Second, a free Muslim state must be established in this free homeland, acting in line with Islam's rules, applying its social system, proclaiming its righteous principles, and propagating its wise call to the people. Unless such a state appears, all Muslims will be sinful, responsible in the eyes of God Almighty for their failure to establish it.

Al-Banna said: "You are a new spirit flowing in this nation's heart, reviving it with the Koran. You are a new light dissipating the darkness of materialism with God's knowledge. Without exaggeration, it is only right that you should feel that you are shouldering this burden when everyone else has abandoned it."

Al-Banna, may God rest his soul, expected the Brotherhood to suffer ordeals, be accused of the most heinous offenses, and to be portrayed in a very ugly light by those in power. He said the time of testing might be lengthy but God has promised victory and rewards. He pointed out that despite the obstacles, there were factors of success, as illustrated by the strength of the call, the world's need for it, and God's support. No obstacle can face these factors of success.

An Unjustified Campaign and False Accusations

I remembered al-Banna's words when I saw the recent unjustified security and media campaigns against the Muslim Brotherhood and the drive to falsely accuse it of crimes. This is happening even though several officials formerly spoke well of the Brotherhood and said it was innocent of violence. In an earlier article, I recounted the Brotherhood's stances since its establishment and the ordeals and false accusations it suffered, but which it was innocent of. I refuted many false accusations, such as our being called terrorists and extremists. I noted the attempt to blur the distinction between the Brotherhood and other groups and felt that this blurring was intentional. In this article I wish to clarify matters and state that we carry out our activities with moderation and through the state's institutions. I also wish to remind the brothers of the nature of their call, which I have already served for 56 years, 20 of them in jail.

Relying on Imam al-Banna's sayings, I wish to assert to the brothers that their path is a sound one and the accusations against them unfounded. I also wish to make it clear to the public that the Muslim Brothers, who have suffered much for the sake of Islam and in upholding its principles, cannot possibly violate its teachings or its methods. In this they follow the example of the prophet, may God's prayers and peace be with him, and his companions, may they reside in God's pleasure. The prophet used to instruct the Muslims in Mecca—who were injured, tortured, and killed—to endure and remain steadfast. He carried to them the glad tidings that God would grant victory to His religion. This actually came to pass when the Arabian Peninsula was purged of idolatry and false Gods, the Jews were driven off, Persia was conquered, the Byzantines were defeated, darkness was lifted, and light was spread.

We must be optimistic. We must preserve the hope that the future is for this religion, no matter how much time it takes or how numerous the obstacles. Let us seek God's aid and endure. This was the commandment of Moses, may God's peace be with him, to his nation after the world accused them of corruption on earth to incite people against them.

Moses said to his people: "Pray for help from God and wait in patience and constancy, for the earth is God's to give as a heritage to such of his servants as he pleaseth; and the end is best for the righteous." [Koranic verse]

The promise of victory was fulfilled. "And we made a people who were considered weak the inheritors of the land in both East and West, lands whereon we sent down our blessings." [Koranic verse]

Endurance, Steadfastness, and Avoidance of Provocation

Muslim Brothers: Whether people recognize you or not, you have performed your Islamic work in response to your God's order and in compliance with your Islamic creed. Your aim is to please God, whether people are pleased with you or not, and whether you are harmed or not. You are not more noble than the prophet and his companions, who were subjected to harm, torture, and murder but endured and remained firm. They were granted victory by God; it is God, the wise and mighty, who grants victory. Be assured that these materialistic forces that are trying to impose themselves will fail. It is not a matter of size and equipment, but one of truth and falsehood. Nothing is true except that which comes from God, namely, the religion God accepts: (The religion before God is Islam), and (if anyone desires a religion other than Islam, never will it be accepted of him, and in the hereafter he will be in the ranks of those who have lost all spiritual good), and (it is not ye who slew them; it was God: when thou threwest a handful of dust, it was not thy act, but God's), and (Thus doth God show forth truth and vanity. For the scum disappears like froth cast out, while that which is for the good of mankind remains on the earth), and (Nay, we hurl the truth against falsehood, and it knocks out its brain, and behold falsehood doth perish) [Koranic verses].

Muslim brothers: Endure, stand fast, and be proud of your affiliation with Islam and of your work to restore its glory, entity, and mastery. Be careful not to be provoked into an action that conflicts with the teachings of your God. The strong ones do not react emotionally, but control themselves when they are angry. Nothing will happen to us except what God wants to happen to us. He is our master, and he wants good for us, although it may look evil (but it is possible that ye dislike a thing which is good for you, and that ye love a thing that is bad for you. But God knoweth and ye know not) [Koranic verse].

We have been subjected to harm, torture, imprisonment, and killing, but God helped us endure. The credit for this endurance does not go to ourselves, but first and foremost to God. Some of us stayed 20 years in prison under various kinds of pressure without their resolve being shaken. Among those is his eminence the current [Muslim Brotherhood] general guide, Muhammad Hamid Abu-al-Nasr. Here he is, continuing his march firmly and resiliently, proud of his call, optimistic that the future is for Islam (and we wished to be gracious to those who were being oppressed on the land, to make them leaders in faith and make them heirs, to establish a firm place for them in the land) [Koranic verse]. Remember the advice imam Hasan al-Banna gave you: "Believe in God and be proud of knowing him and depending on him. Do not fear anyone but him, perform the duties he imposed on you, and avoid what he asked you to avoid."

O people, know that no one is more loyal to the homeland than the youths of the Muslim Brotherhood. They regard their service to their homeland as a religious duty through which they get closer to God; they are not after personal or material gains.

The martyr imam said: Know, brothers, that your call is innocent and fair; it goes beyond personal interests and disdains material gains.

He also said: We would like our nation—and all Muslims are our nation—to know that they are more dear to us than ourselves, and that we love to sacrifice ourselves for their might, glory, dignity, religion, and aspirations. He also said: We are for you, beloved ones, not for others, and we will never be against you.

"This is Our Religion, and This is Our Policy"

Imam al-Banna responded to the claim about separation of religion and politics by saying: If you are asked what you advocate, say: We advocate Islam, which Muhammad, God's prayers and peace be upon him, has brought. The Government is part of Islam and freedom is one of its duties. If you were told this is politics, say: This is Islam and we do not know of such divisions. He says on another subject in response to those who claim that we hide behind religion: "Our kinfolk, we call upon you with the Koran in our right hand, the Prophet's teachings in our left hand, and the good actions of our predecessors as our example. We call upon you to get into Islam, the teachings of Islam, the rules of Islam, and the guidance of Islam. If you considered this politics, then this is our policy. If someone who calls on you to adopt these principles is regarded as a politician, then we are the most veteran in politics, thank God. If you choose to call this politics, then call it what you want. Names will not harm us when the purpose is clear."

Brothers, seek God's help, be patient, and have confidence in your Lord and his support and defense. Have confidence in your course, creed, and program. Know that victory comes with patience and that relief comes after hardship. Remember what Imam al-Banna said: "A man is tested by his patience, persistence, and consistent serious work. Whoever of you wants to pick a fruit before it is ripe or cut a flower before its time, he will not be doing the right thing, and it would be better for him to seek another calling. Whoever maintains patience with me until the seed grows, the tree matures, and the fruit becomes ripe for picking, his reward will be with God; and the reward of those who do good will not be forgotten. Either victory and sovereignty or martyrdom and happiness."

Brothers, know that God asked us to have sincere intentions and be well prepared and leave the results of our actions to Him. Our Prophet, God's prayers and peace be upon him, says: "This religion is solid, so tread carefully in its path; overzealousness yields puny results."

Brothers, know that your group is like a tree planted by the martyred imam and irrigated by his blood and the blood of martyrs before and after him, making its roots grew deeper, its trunk grow stronger, and its branches spread farther. It has become difficult for its enemies to kill, and it has started to give fruit all the time, God willing.

Remember that Imam al-Banna said that "either you are in the call or out, and if the call is not in you, it will be in others, 'and if you turn back from the bath, God will substitute in your stead another people; then they would not be like you' [Koranic verse]."

Let everyone who assists in the oppression of others, even by a word (as a journalist), by the adoption of a law (as deputies of the People's Assembly), or by harming and torturing (as a soldier), let them know that they are responsible before God for all this, and that those they assist will not be different before God. Let everyone know that oppression is darkness on Judgement Day and that God listens to the prayers of the oppressed. Those who are detained unjustly, their relatives and children will continue to ask God to punish the oppressors, and God will answer their prayers. All those who collaborate in injustice will regret their actions, but at a time when regret will be useless. God be my witness, I have conveyed the message. "Think not that God doth not heed the deeds of those who do wrong." [Koranic verse]

Brotherhood's Right To Form Party Defended

NC1106181794 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Jun 94 p 7

[Article by Dr. Majdi Qarqar: The Attacks on the Brotherhood: The Salsabil Case and the Lack of Evidence"]

[Text] At dawn on the day when President Mubarak addressed the opening session of the national dialogue conference, the dawn visitors [secret service agents] arrested a number of Muslim Brotherhood [MB] leaders in the organization's Guidance Office and in various governorates. It appears that the cover of darkness was not enough for the dawn visitors, for they deepened the cover of darkness with the cover of national dialogue (one layer of darkness upon another).

The security confrontations with the MB in the past three years were characterized by partial and limited blows in various areas (the issues of the Dar al-Wafa' Publishing House in al-Mansurah, the Propagation Society in Bani Suwayf, the Salsabil case, the al-Sharqiyah case, and the case of the sports plot in Damietta to overthrow the regime by using a deflated soccer ball). But the recent confrontation marks a change in the security policy, because it was a comprehensive and widespread confrontation that included a number of governorates; it was a preparation for a bigger blow (as some are analyzing, calling for, and preparing for in government papers and magazines) simiiar to the blows of 1954 and 1965. We pray to God to spare the nation from the evils of this sedition.

The regrettable thing is that the magazine AL-MUSAWWAR prepared us for this recent blow several days ago in its issue of Friday, 27 May, which went on sale on Wednesday, 25 May. The magazine promised to publish the al-Salsabil case's documents in its next four issues (step by step with security). In the same issue, the magazine published what it said were documents pertaining to the issue of lawyer 'Abd-al-Harith Madani, which it had obtained through its security or government contacts, though the magazine's documents are not worth the paper they are printed on.

The latest confrontation against the Islamic trend in general and the MB in particular began in the wake of the Lawyers Association's general elections at the end of 1992, in which the Islamic trend won a majority of seats. The progovernment writers' anger was aroused, and they appealed to what they called the "silent majority" to play a role in liberating the unions from the "Islamists." The result was the enacting of the "muddled" law of professional associations in February 1993. Union elections were held in accordance with this law, but the silent majority gave its vote to the Islamic trend and this in turn inflamed the pro-authority writers still further, resulting in the strikes by security forces.

Lawyer 'Abd-al-Harith Madani's case set off the recent confrontation. The security organs used this as a pretext to deal a blow to the MB. But their attempt failed because the lawyers' recent action involved them all, regardless of their political affiliations. They did so to defend their association and the rights of its members in particular and Egyptian human rights in general.

Going back to the Salsabil case, which was the focus of AL-MUSAWWAR's documents and which it began to publish in its recent edition, we find that the magazine notes that it will publish in its next edition the MB's secret plans to establish a party, as if the establishment of a party is a crime punishable by law and the MB's reputation has to be blackened. The MB has been trying through the judiciary to ascertain its legality for more than 25 years. Obstacles are placed in its way even though it is trying to operate publicly through a legal party it is seeking to establish. What is the crime in that? The MB is a major political faction and has a right to express itself through a party. If you, the pro-authority writers, are saying that it is a secret organization, then why do you not ask the authorities to let it be a public organization through the establishment of a legal party as part of the state's public order system, especially since none of AL-MUSAWWAR's documents indicate that the MB has used or even condoned violence?

If we accept that the MB has a right to operate through a party that is being established, is it not also its right to organize its ranks? Was there a need, for example, to arrest the Nasirites before they declared that they wanted to form a party, on the pretext that they constituted a secret organization or a putative party? We in the Labor Party have always advocated the right of the MB and the Nasirites to establish their own parties. Now that the Nasirites have done so, there remains the right of the MB to operate through a legal party.

Since its establishment, the Labor Party has consistently sought to renew its blood by changing its officials from bottom to top every two years through elections. Will the National "very Democratic" Party follow the example of the Labor Party and MB or will it be content to use the name "democratic" without content?

AL-MUSAWWAR talks about a document that includes certain recommendations to the MB members should they be arrested. Assuming that these documents are true, we would like to ask if there is anything strange about this, particularly since the MB has been exposed to all this coercion since the late 1940s. What is strange about providing the MB members with certain legal information to confront the security agencies' fabrications and allegations?

The AL-MUSAWWAR editorial touches on the MB's plans to penetrate the professional associations, trade unions, and student federations. It said that the MB and the Muslim streams are seeking to marshal their supporters so that these associations play a correct role on the national and professional levels. What did the ruling party do in this respect? Definitely nothing, because the trade unions and student elections take place in a true democratic atmosphere, which does not suit the National "Democratic" Party.

We are writing this from the vantage point of the ranks of the Labor Party. What we are saying is right and must be said to back our brothers, who are working within the framework of legitimacy and the law despite the severe harassment and coercion facing them. Perhaps it is useful to recall what Labor Party leader Ibrahim Shukri said in his political statement before the Party's Sixth General Congress, and what 'Adil Husayn said in his latest article: That the MB is the closest political and Islamic group to us, and we have been in an alliance since 1987 under the motto "the Islamic solution program." There are certain differences in details between us, and that is why each party maintains its independent organizational entity.

Confrontation with the Islamic reformation trends is erroneous and serves the schemes of the nation's enemies. The Labor Party has encountered severe coercion. After the Labor Party's political statement, which defined the party's Islamic identity, was issued at the Party's Fourth General Congress in January 1987, the security agencies began their war by trying to torpedo the party from within. Tne party's members, however, foiled the security agencies' plans and frustrated these subversive attempts at the party's congress in 1989. The Security agencies continued their subversive attempts, instigating divisions in the party's ranks. They then used certain security personnel as dupes every time the party adopted a correct national and Islamic stance on the regime's erroneous political positions. When the people got fed up with these dupes, the security agencies began to change their methods: In several governorates they began to summon the party's leaders and newspaper writers to the prosecution's office, arrest its members and incessantly coerce them.

This fierce onslaught and human rights are indivisible. Therefore, all sincere national groups must confront this onslaught. What the Labor Party and the MB are confronting today will confront the Nasirite Party, the National Progressive Unionist Party, and the Wafd party tomorrow, and the others later. There is no need to recall the wisdom of the black bull, who said he was eaten the day the white bull was eaten.

It is strange that the government is turning a blind eye to the external enemies and is daily creating new enemies out of the people's sons, as if all the people are its enemies or an enemy government is ruling the people. It is a short-sighted government that fights in all directions simultaneously: A war against the violent Muslim groups, against the depositors in the capital investment companies, against Egyptian workers abroad with the new tax law, against the trade unions with the unified trade unions law, against workers with the unified labor law, against our kinfolk in the countryside with the mayors law, against the university professors with the law on appointments of deans. O ruling Egyptian Government: Don't you have one wise man to make things right?

Documents Detail Muslim Brotherhood's History

NC1106202194

[Editorial report] The 3 June edition of the weekly magazine AL-MUSAWWAR publishes on pages 20-23 and 70-73 an unattributed 8,000-words report described as "part one" in a series of reports titled "AL-MUSAWWAR Publishes the Secret Documents of the Muslim Brotherhood." Introducing its report, the magazine states that "the Muslim Brotherhood's conduct at the Lawyers Association the Tuesday before last, and their clash with the security forces was neither accidental nor a spontaneous reaction to the death of an anonymous lawyer involved in terrorist acts, as substantiated by evidence and documents. As documents prove, this conduct was a well-studied move that was prepared for 27 years. The time for it to bear first fruits was at the Lawyers Association." The report adds that the Muslim Brothers are trying to build a public existence on the dead body of the law and the Constitution. "Their goal from now on is to establish themselves on the political map as a fait acompli, although legally they are an outlawed and illegitimate group," AL-MUSAWWAR says.

The magazine says that it has obtained "14 documents" belonging to that secret group, all proving that "the Muslim Brotherhood could only exist as an initial and fundamental secret organization screened by a public facade, a facade that acts merely as an instrument for public relations or a curtain to mask the truth about the group and its objectives."

These documents were seized from members of the "Salsabil" computer firm in February 1992, following a tip that the company headquarters was being used for secret meetings to set up a Muslim Brotherhood organization to overthrow the regime. Signed by Muslim Brotherhood General Guide Hamid Abu-al-Nasr, the seized documents included a complete plan for overthrowing the regime. the seizure came at a time when the

Brotherhood spokesman, Ma'mun al-Hudaybi, was trying in court to obtain Government recognition of the Brotherhood.

Opening with the statement "we are a jihad group," the first document stresses that the "Muslim Brothers must establish their presence in the political arena." For this purpose, the document puts forward a number of approaches: To inspire a feeling within every brother that he has a mission to carry out and that he should act in public without fear of the law or the security forces; to make brothers understand that, despite the ban, they are exercising a lawful and legitimate right and that they are not criminals; and, to substitute the policy of running away with "a confrontation spirit" so as to emerge from the narrow circle of the brotherhood family into the larger society through involvement in public activity, because a decision had already been made to get recognition for the organization.

The document emphasizes the need to take practical action to set up "branches" in governorates through which the brothers can exercise their activities. It also stresses that popular Muslim Brother key figures must act in the governorates as "active cells" to whom public opinion can refer concerning the Brotherhood. It warns, however, against going too far both in publicizing the names of these figures and in keeping them secret. In other words, the document adds, "a balance should be maintained between secrecy and publicity and between the size of the Brotherhood and the degree of popularization. Everybody should seek to limit the amount of information that reaches the security apparatuses; this can be done through several methods, primarily through a constant change of faces and by giving an opportunity to youth to take the responsibility." According to the document, "this security policy must balance our needs until we can impose a kind of public existence, provided that we take care to avoid provoking the security apparatuses without strong reasons."

The "second document" explains that the aforementioned goal requires a general, understandable, and well-calculated security policy vis-a-vis the existing policy of the security agencies. This policy must take into consideration the unique circumstances of every area. Hence, the document stresses "the need to maintain pressure groups at all times to curb security pressure on the Brotherhood locally and abroad."

At the local level, the report adds, the document stresses the need for the Muslim Brothers to be active in trade and professional associations, student unions, and accredited charity organizations, leaving sectors like students to evolve naturally without restriction or planning. It also stresses that Brotherhood figures must be known to everyone in the various positions of responsibility and must appear at all occasions.

At world level, the document emphasizes the need for the Muslim Brotherhood to be represented in worldwide organizations that foster the cause of freedom, such as Amnesty International, and to have its own organizations—like the World Islamic Organization, the Islamic Human Rights Organization, and the Islamic Lawyers Organization—to put pressure on the Egyptian regime through all available means, like cables and contacts with embassies.

According to the report, the most serious point in this document is a question it poses about "the possibility of establishing channels of communication with the security apparatus through some known figures in the movement and by studying how much this contact can be used to achieve the Brotherhood's objectives and activities."

The document suggests that a security committee called "the liaison committee" be established to "promote a high security awareness among Brothers, monitor and analyze the security apparatus' activities, and work out ways to handle it." This committee, the document adds, must have links with the persons responsible for the different security sections to find out the impact of the security policy on them.

The AL-MUSSAWAR report cites "another document" on the Brotherhood's policy during the "preparatory stage." It says that the most important proposal in that document is "to guarantee the security apparatus' neutrality in the battle to overthrow the regime." Stating that the Egyptian public is made up of a silent majority and that a number of politicians aspire to control them one way or another, the document asks why the Muslim Brothers do not utilize this factor in working with the Egyptian public.

As for how to achieve this, the document contends that all leftist and rightist currents have opted to take the Government's side and this allows it to concentrate all its time and resources to resisting religious and other currents. To explain this conduct, the document says that none of these currents have any grassroots popularity, and hence, they were careful to seek the state's protection. The second reason is that these political currents thought that the Islamic current was determined to monopolize authority, and to them this is worse than the existing situation. That is why the confrontation heated up between the Islamic current and the state.

Moving on to the state's approach to fighting the Islamic current, which the document believes is more favorable to the Brotherhood than ever, the document contends that "the state lacks an organized and scientific approach to confronting political Islam, since policymakers are not qualified for this role" and adds that the public have no respect for the police, particularly after repeated attacks against police officers by the Islamic Group.

Elaborating further on this point, the document says that the state resorts to legislation and laws to curb the Muslim Brotherhood. However, Muslim Brothers should not fear such legislation since no measures have been taken so far in cases involving Muslim Brothers. The document explains that the state does not pursue these cases to trials, preferring to keep the persons involved under custody for several months until the court releases them and dismisses the case.

The document then shows the pros and cons of making confessions to the National Security Authority, the prosecution, and the court should a Brother get caught and be forced to confess. It then talks about the problems facing the Brotherhood internally; they involve cultural, educational, social, and economic problems.

The "fourth document" talks about the Brotherhoods' "organizational structure," and states that "the organization is ready indeed, its program and internal structure accurately determined, and it is waiting for the starting signal."

This document is a draft chart, showing the organization is headed by General Guide Hamid Abu-al-Nasr, who also chairs "the General Shura Council." He is assisted by his two deputies, Ahmad al-Malat and Mustafa Mashhur, and the "Permanent Bureau Panel," which is made up of an unspecified number of members.

The document then lists the members of the permanent bureau, specialized committees, and other affiliated bodies and outlines the organization's statute.

The last part of the magazine report cites a document on the results of recent elections for the "Guidance Bureau," listing the bureau's members.

Political Islam Review: AL-SHA'B 3 Jun

NC1006184094

[Editorial Report] The following is a comprehensive review of all items in the 3 June issue of the Arabic-language newspaper Cairo AL-SHA'B that pertain to political Islamic issues.

CONTENTS:

1. Detained Lawyers Still in Custody
2. Brotherhood Leader, Party Members To Be Questioned
3. Journalists Committee To Discuss Detention of Colleagues
4. Scholar Refutes Writer's Claims on Fatwa
5. Party Leader Supports Muslim Brotherhood
6. TV Children's Programs Criticized

DETAINED LAWYERS STILL IN CUSTODY

Mu'tazz al-Hadidi, in an approximately 700-word report on pages 1 and 7, notes that the Central Cairo Public Attorney will decide on 5 June whether or not to continue to hold in custody lawyers detained following a demonstration outside the Lawyers's Association building in Cairo on 17 May. The lawyers, including some members of the Association's Council, were protesting the death of lawyer 'Abd-al- Harith Madani while in police custody on 26 April. The report notes that outside the Public Attorney's office hundreds of lawyers and relatives of the detainees gathered in solidarity with the detained lawyers. The report adds that at a meeting of the Lawyers Association's Council on 31 May, the conferees decided to form a delegation led by Association head Ahmad al-Khawajah to meet with President Mubarak to hand him a petition requesting the release of all the detained lawyers and a "serious investigation" into the causes of the death of lawyer 'Abd-al-Harith Madani. Speaking at the meeting, al-Khawajah noted that the arrest of three Council members is a "serious precedent." Noting that his statements published in AKHBAR AL-YAWM and AKHIR SA'AH have been partly distorted, he denied having said that he found it difficult to deal with the current council, which is controlled by the Muslim Brotherhood. For his part, the Association's Secretary General Ahmad Sayf-al-Islam al-Banna, who is a Muslim Brotherhood figure, complained that some officials are giving the president a "bad image" of the Association, adding that the Interior Ministry officials failed to calm down the angry lawyers who were demanding to see an autopsy report on Madani's death. In an attempt to distance the Council from any connection with the Muslim Brotherhood, al-Banna concluded that "the Association cannot accept leadership by any external group," adding that the lawyers are free.

BROTHERHOOD LEADER, PARTY MEMBERS TO BE QUESTIONED

An unattributed 70-word report on page 1 notes that the Northern al-Jizah Prosecutor has summoned Hamid Abu-al-Nasr, Muslim Brotherhood General Guide, to appear before him on 5 June to be questioned about a statement bearing his signature that was distributed during 'Id al-Adha. The report adds that four unnamed "youngsters" have been questioned and remanded in custody for 15 days by the Imbabah prosecutor in connection with the same statement, which includes a congratulatory message from the Brotherhood guide to Muslims on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha.

On the same page, another 100-word unattributed report says that "members of the Labor Party detained following the 'Id al-Adha prayers at the Mustafa Mahmud Mosque will appear before the al-Duqqi prosecutor tomorrow following the expiration of the term of remand set by the prosecutor to complete the investigations." The report names the detainees as Muhsin Hashim, member of the Labor Party's Executive Committee; Mahmud 'Abd-al-Rahman, party secretary in al- Marj area; his secondary school student son 'Atif 'Abd-al-Rahman; Tariq Faruq, and Rashad Ahmad 'Ali. The report does not specify the charges against the members.

JOURNALISTS COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS DETENTION OF COLLEAGUES

An unattributed 100-word report on page 1 notes that the Freedoms Committee of the Journalists Association will meet at the association's headquarters on June 6 to discuss the "latest developments" of AL-SHA'B military correspondent 'Abd-al-Sattar Abu- Husayn, who is serving a one-year prison term, passed by the Higher Military Court for publishing a report without obtaining permission from the competent authorities. The committee will also discuss the arrest of Ibrahim al-Sayyid Muhammad Sa'd, a MENA journalist arrested at his home in al-Munib on 1 June.

SCHOLAR REFUTES WRITER'S CLAIMS ON FATWA

An approximately 700-word article on page 2 by Mahmud Fayid, identified as general secretary of the al-jam'iyat al-shar'iyah religious societies, comments on a column by writer Anis Mansur published by AL-AHRAM on 4 March 1994. In his column, Mansur claimed that in 1928 al-Azhar scholar Shaykh Muhammad 'Abduh was asked if checkbook savings are halal, meaning religiously permitted, and 'Abduh's answer was yes. Mansur then praised 'Abduh for being an "enlightened" scholar and lauded Mufti Shaykh Sayyid Tantawi, a disciple of Shaykh 'Abduh, for his courage, dedication, and sincerity. The writer notes that out of his belief that Mansur's words deserved some comments, he sent two messages to AL-AHRAM's chief editor about the matter, but the paper never published them. Refuting Mansur's claims, the writer points out that Shaykh 'Abduh died in 1905, so he could not have possibly arisen from the dead 23 years later to answer the above question. He further adds that he examined the subject matter and found the fatwa to be false.

PARTY LEADER SUPPORTS MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD

Commenting on the Government's clampdown on the Muslim Brotherhood, Labor Party Secretary General 'Adil Husayn writes the following in a boxed commentary below his weekly article on page 5: "We hope that the campaign against the Brotherhood will not go beyond the current limits. We hope that the arrests will not be broadened and that there will be no clampdown on the [professional] associations. If it is proved that the current campaign is part of a general campaign of onslaughts against Islam and the Muslims, it will be a major disaster for the Government and will finish off any hope for stability. The Labor Party supports the ongoing efforts to contain armed political violence, but extending the campaign of repression and persecution to include the Brotherhood cannot be within this framework. Nobody will believe you if you say that the Brotherhood supports or finances the terrorist organizations. For our part, we do not distance ourselves from our principled stand of cooperating with the Brotherhood and defending their right to operate legally. True we are two independent organizations and true we have some differences in concepts and methods of action, but the points of agreement between us exceed the points of disagreement, and both of us have the general goal of applying the shari'ah. If striking at the Brotherhood means that the moderate and reform-oriented Islamic movements will meet the same fate as the revolutionary extremist movements, this will not frighten us. Do what you like with us, and our party will, God willing, persevere. God is our sole and true supporter."

Commenting on the lawyers' protests at the death of their colleague Madani while in police custody, Husayn, in his approximately 4,000-word article on the same page, asks how can the lawyers be blamed for being angry in the right cause and in the face of the government's reluctance to punish the murderers? He adds: "What is so strange about lawyers demanding their right to protest to the authorities in an organized march?" He notes that the events at the Lawyers Association did not require a conspiracy by the "Brotherhood," adding that what happened was a natural and spontaneous reaction by lawyers representing various political trends, including leftists, Wafdists, and Labor Party members.

CHILDREN'S TV PROGRAMS CRITICIZED

Writer Nur-al-Huda Sa'd, in an approximately 600-word article published in the "Women's Voice" feature on page 6, criticizes an unnamed television program in which the broadcasters reproached some young girls for not having friends of the opposite sex. Another child spoke of his dream of becoming a police officer to "rid the country of extremism, terrorism, and the bad guys who wish to destroy Egypt." The writer adds: "Thus, the children"s programs have turned into a way to brainwash children with a view to shaping their views in a certain way satisfactory to the Government, blessed by the United States, and in line with the requirements of the new world order. The programs incite girls to befriend boys and to write to them and treat those who do not do so as cowardly and hesitant. They lead boys to believe that our real enemy is terrorism and extremism, not Israel, the Serbs, or the Hindus, and that the main job of a police officer is to fight terrorism, not track down criminals or protect citizens." The writer adds that "youngsters' songs" encourage flirtation between boys and girls and brand "decently dressed" women as "reactionary." She adds: "A disciplined girl is always blamed and accused of suffering from complexes. She is said to wear the veil to escape her economic difficulties and resort to religion to offset her inability to cope with the developments of this dynamic age."

On the same page, an unattributed report criticizes the television for broadcasting a party marking the fourth birthday of the women's magazine HURRIYATI, in which singers danced with "short dresses" and belly dangers competed. The report notes that sitting among the audience was Samir Rajab, chairman of the board and columnist of the religious newspaper 'AQIDATI. The report concludes by asking: "Is dancing or pleasure the only alternative to extremism and terrorism on the television screen, which belongs to the people and must respect their religion and feelings?"

Political Islam Review: AL-SHA'B 7 Jun

NC1206151094

[Editorial Report] The following is a comprehensive review of all items in the 7 June issue of the Arabic-language newspaper AL-SHA'B that pertain to political Islamic issues.

CONTENTS:

1. Authorities Continue Detention of 33 Lawyers
2. Human Rights Body Protests Military Tribunals, Executions
3. Article Urges Improved Relations With Sudan
4. Court Hearing of Lawyers Case Reported
5. Writer Criticizes Organization of National Dialogue
6. Muslim Brotherhood Official Urges No Confrontation
7. Officials Assert al-Ghazali Not Banned From Speeches
8. Iran's Velayati Views Ties With Arabs, Terrorism, Bosnia
9. Article Views Campaign Against Islamists, Muslim Brotherhood
10. Writer Notes Anti-Islam Policy in Tunisia
11. European Racist Policies Against Arab, Muslim Migrants Cited
12. Al-Ghazali Notes Need to Implement 'Divine Injunctions'

AUTHORITIES CONTINUE DETENTION OF 33 LAWYERS

An approximately 450-word report on pages 1 and 7 by Mu'tazz al- Hadidi indicates that the Central Cairo Prosecution Office has extended for 15 days the detention of 33 lawyers who were arrested in connection with the Lawyers Association incidents. It adds that the Prosecution Office released 15 others, including 6 citizens who were arrested randomly off the streets during a clash between police and lawyers, and it names the freed lawyers. Al-Hadidi says the freed lawyers assembled at the court and protested the continued detention of their colleagues; meanwhile the security forces surrounded the court. A number of lawyers who attended the court session held a meeting at which they called for a expanded conference of lawyers on Thursday and formed a committee, made up of 24 lawyers, to act as a link between the Bar Association Council and the lawyers.

The report says that over 250 lawyers who attended the meeting decided to keep the offices of the detained lawyers operating. It adds that the lawyers issued a statement after the conference saying that "we lawyers will not retreat, despite the bombs and arrests, but will continue the escalation in continuation of the Egyptian lawyers' awakening and national uprising, which history will record came after the assassination of 'Abd-al-Harith Madani." The lawyers affirmed, the report says, that "the regime" is making "overt" attempts to "discourage" the lawyers and "bury their revolution" and that they will not forget their "primary motive," the murder of their colleague, lawyer 'Abd-al-Harith Madani.

HUMAN RIGHTS BODY PROTESTS MILITARY TRIBUNALS, EXECUTIONS

An approximately 350-word report on pages 1 and 7 says the Egyptian Human Rights Organization [EHRO] has issued a statement on the trial of 17 defendants charged with the attempted assassination of Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi, The statement expresses concern over the continued military trials. The report adds that the EHRO "notes its regret that its repeated appeals to the Egyptian authorities to stop referring civilians to military courts and to stop enforcing sentences passed by these courts have not met response."

The organization appeals to all "civil society institutions" and all Arab and world human rights organizations to urge the Egyptian authorities to stop these military tribunals.

ARTICLE URGES IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH SUDAN

An approximately 1,800-word article on page 2 by Major General Tal'at Musallam discusses the current deterioration of Egyptian- Sudanese ties, reviewing each side's claims and accusations against the other. Urging improved relations between the two countries by consolidating previous bilateral accords, the author asserts the need to insure Sudan's territorial integrity and for Egypt not to support any resolution placing Sudan on the list of countries sponsoring terrorism. He notes that the contentious points between the two countries include the Hala'ib border dispute, mutual media propaganda, and Egypt's refusal in April to extradite the hijacker of a Sudanese plane.

COURT HEARING OF LAWYERS CASE REPORTED

Page 3 of AL-SHA'B features an approximately 700-word report by Khalid Yunus on the Southern Cairo Court's session "last Thursday," in which the court extended the detention of the lawyers arrested in connection with the Bar Association demonstration. Yunus says thousands of lawyers as well as the detainees' families assembled in the court yard and that anger and enthusiasm gripped everyone, who shouted slogans like "Long live the Bar Association" and "Prison has never changed a thought." He adds that hundreds of Central Security Forces personnel were deployed inside the court equipped with tear gas bombs and rubber bullets, poised to "repeat the tragedy of striking against the lawyers inside their association on 17 May."

The reporter says that a defense lawyer moved that the items seized at the site of the lawyers' arrest are not proof of a crime. The items included a video cassette of a debate at a book fair two years ago between Shaykh Muhammad al-Ghazali, Dr. Muhammad 'Amarah, and Dr. Faraj Fudah, a video cassette on Bosnia-Herzegovina, and another cassette on Afghanistan.

The reporter adds that the doyen of Lawyers Ahmad al-Khawajah in his defense statement denied that the Muslim Brotherhood members of the Bar Association had prompted the lawyers to demonstrate or that "overzealous" young lawyers had accused the association of inaction and demanded "serious moves."

WRITER CRITICIZES ORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL DIALOGUE

On page 5, AL-SHA'B publishes an approximately 2,000-word article by Dr. Muhammad Hilmi Murad, who criticizes the ruling National Democratic Party's call for a national dialogue and its organization of the dialogue. The writer says there is an intention to "overstep" the role of the preparatory committee of the dialogue and "jump" directly to convening the conference without prior agreement among the parties concerned on the tasks entrusted with them.

He adds that by specifying the "legitimate" national forces who are to take part in the dialogue, the ruling party disparages the Muslim Brotherhood as an organization. But, he continues, it is inconceivable that the ruling party will exclude from the dialogue all leading personalities in Islamic thought who act as individuals and intellectuals, or al-Azhar University in its capacity as a cultural institution with an Islamic character. Murad notes: "The Constitution, which is currently intended to be violated, stipulates that Islam is the national religion and that the Islamic shari'ah principles are the primary guides for legislation. Naturally, nothing prevents the participation of anyone who represents the Christian intellectual trend."

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD OFFICIAL URGES NO CONFRONTATION

Muslim Brotherhood Deputy General Guide Mustafa Mashhur writes a 2,000-word article on page 5, noting the "artificial security and media campaign" against the Muslim Brotherhood and urging patience. (Text filed as NC1106152694 and adds)

OFFICIALS ASSERT AL-GHAZALI NOT BANNED FROM SPEECHES

A 170-word report on the same page says that after "the public's overwhelming anger," officials "rushed" to meet Shaykh Muhammad al- Ghazali to assert to him that he was not banned from making speeches.

The report adds that the interior minister met Shaykh al-Ghazali "last week" and affirmed to him before "television and press cameras" that the Interior Ministry views him with "every appreciation and respect and that it would be nonsensical for the ministry to ban his speeches." This week, the report says, the Awqaf minister visited al-Ghazali at his home and confirmed to him that his ministry has nothing to do with banning him from speeches.

IRAN'S VELAYATI VIEWS TIES WITH ARABS, TERRORISM, BOSNIA

Page 6 features a 1,800-word interview with Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati, who discusses relations with the Arabs, terrorism, and Bosnia-Herzegovina. (Text filed as NC1006160594 and adds)

ARTICLE VIEWS CAMPAIGN AGAINST ISLAMISTS, MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD

In an approximately 1,000-word article on page 7, the author, Dr. Majdi Qarqar, discuses campaign against Muslim Brotherhood leaders and the "Islamic trend." (Text filed as NC1106181794 and add)

WRITER NOTES ANTI-ISLAM POLICY IN TUNISIA

In an approximately 1,800-word article on page 8, Lutfi Bin-Ramadan reviews Tunisian-Algerian relations. He notes that the "ruling secular elite" in Tunisia is aware that its "war of annihilation" against the Islamic movement cannot end up in its favor in "an Arab and Islamic environment permeated by Islamic awakening and in an international environment quickly heading toward democracy." Therefore, he says, the Tunisian "regime" took the "fight against fundamentalism as an ideology to all international forums."

The writer says that the situation in Algeria has confused the Tunisian regime and made it lose its balance so badly that it will be difficult to predict the regime's behavior should the Islamists take power in Algeria. He notes three possibilities: First, the Tunisian regime may open up to the Islamic opposition, free its prisoners, and restore democracy. The author dismisses this possibility because the "ruling elite" is "indulging in hostility to Islam as a religion." The second possibility is that it will concentrate on the economic aspect, the flow of Western financial aid, and turn a blind eye to "the laundering of drug money." The third option is that Tunisia might play the same role the "Iraqi regime" played in the Iranian revolution. This option does not exclude the possibility of Tunisia turning into a "base where foreign forces—especially the French who are linked with the Tunisian regime by a joint defense pact—would assemble."

EUROPEAN RACIST POLICIES AGAINST ARAB, MUSLIM MIGRANTS CITED

An approximately 900-word report on page 8 by Muhammad Jamal 'Arafah discusses European countries' recent measures to restrict the flow of foreign emigrants, especially Arabs and Muslims. The reporter cites regulations in many European countries to reduce the number of Arab and Muslim migrants, deport some of them, and incorporate others in the "fabric" of these countries.

AL-GHAZALI NOTES NEED TO IMPLEMENT 'DIVINE INJUNCTIONS'

AL-SHA'B publishes on page 12 a 380-word article written by Muhammad al-Ghazali, who criticizes a television debate by three intellectuals on the books and views of some late Islamic intellectuals.

Commenting on the debate, al-Ghazali says that blocking "God's ruling is a crime" and notes the need to implement "divine injunctions and curb human whims."

Political Islam Review: 'AQIDATI 7 Jun

NC1106114294

[Editorial Report] The following is a comprehensive reiview of all items in the 7 June issue of the Arabic-language newspaper Cairo 'AQIDATI that pertain to political Islamic issues.

CONTENTS:

1. Sports Gambling Against Shari'ah
2. Appeal Made To Help Muslim Refugees
3. Youth Camp To Discuss Issues Facing Muslims
4. Writer Berates West's Stance on Islam
5. Al-Ghazali Urges Youth To Defend Islam
6. Writer Claims West Continues Plots Against Islam
7. Universities Prepare Summer Activities
8. Rich Saudis Build Islamic Complex in Uzbekistan

SPORTS GAMBLING AGAINST SHARI'AH

The lead story on page 1 is a 100-word summary of a fatwa [religious edict] by the mufti and the Ifta' Council that betting on soccer matches is against religious law. A 1,700-word question and answer article on pages 8 and 9 rules on various issues raised by readers. One of them deals with the ruling highlighted on page 1, namely that betting on soccer matches is against shari'ah and appeals to "all Arab fans of soccer not to undertake this illegal gambling and to protect the traditions of Islam and its shari'ah and the Muslims' reputation in the world." The other rulings cover such topics as the use of foreign words such as "bye-bye" in Friday sermons, which is regarded as a sin; the illegality of marrying a stepdaughter; and the rules for marrying a divorced woman. Another ruling comes out against the use of any medicine where alcohol has been used in its manufacturing unless there is no alternative medicine.

APPEAL MADE TO HELP MUSLIM REFUGEES

A 100-word summary on page 1 reports on an appeal from the governing body of the Higher Islamic Council for Propagation and Relief to the heads of Islamic countries urging more aid to Muslim refugees, who make up more than 90 percent of the refugees in the world. The council also appeals to the leaders of the major powers, the pope, and the UN secretary general to take urgent action to stop the Serbian attacks on Bosnia's Muslims and lift the arms embargo imposed on the latter so that they can defend themselves. The appeal to help Muslim refugees is further elaborated on in a 900- word report by Jamal Salim on page 20. The report says the appeal calls for allocating fixed financial and material aid to help alleviate the sufferings of Muslim refugees and also appeals to rich Muslims to help their brothers. Council Chairman Shaykh Jad al-Haqq 'Ali Jad-al-Haqq calls on world Muslim relief societies "to visit relief sites for those harmed and for the needy and to give increasing care to modern field studies, to use documented data when making decisions, and to coordinate their work to save their efforts and avoid duplication." After calling for diversifying the types of relief, he underlines the importance of "abiding by humanitarian principles in relief without racial, religious, ethnic, or political affiliation discrimination and to be completely neutral." Dr. Farid Qirshi, chairman of the council's relief department, then reviews the council's achievements in Bosnia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Burma, Somalia, Sudan, Kurdistan, Sri Lanka, India, and the independent states and then details some of the projects that the council is preparing to help alleviate the suffering of refugees.

YOUTH CAMP TO DISCUSS ISSUES FACING MUSLIMS

A 150-word report by Muhammad al-Abnudi on page 2 says that the Abu-Bakr al-Siddiq Camp organized by the Higher Council for Islamic Affairs will be held in Alexandria on 19 July and will be attended by youth delegations from more than 20 Islamic countries. It adds that the delegations will discuss a number of religious and other issues facing the Muslim world, including the need to fight corrupt ideas.

WRITER BERATES WEST'S STANCE ON ISLAM

A 450-word article by Basyuni al-Halawani in the "With All Frankness" column on page 6 welcomes recent statements by Western officials that praise Islam, the shari'ah, and its tolerant principles, adding that these are a gain for Islam and the Muslims' just causes and could effectively help "rectify the wrong and misleading image that has been projected by the extremist groups through their rejected actions and alien ideas that have nothing to do with Islam at all." But he notes that these statements by Western officials do not reflect a clear Western stance on Islam and the Muslims' causes, adding that the Western media continues to implement a scheme to distort the image of Islam while Western countries are not changing their negative stances, which emphasize their support for all the extremist and racist movements against Islam.

The writer then adds: "If it is the view of U.S. President Bill Clinton's adviser that Islam is a call for tolerance and dialogue and that it does not pose a danger to other nations and civilizations, then what has the U.S. Administration done to restore the Muslims' usurped rights and lift the yoke of the clear injustice imposed on our Muslim brothers in Bosnia-Herzegovina, India, Palestine, and other areas of conflict in the world?" He then criticizes Britain's attitude toward the Muslims' causes after citing Prince Charles' statements that Islam is full of the meanings of love, brotherhood, and equality. He adds that "while we are happy with these statements, we fear that they might be part of the constant deceptions and plots against the Muslim world," noting that the West alone cannot be blamed for this but also the "Muslim countries that have accepted the role of the spectator and have agreed to be pawns in a chess game controlled by the West." Noting that Muslims' conditions are getting worse, he urges them to return to Islam's principles and the shari'ah in their dealings and in resolving their conflicts.

AL-GHAZALI URGES YOUTH TO DEFEND ISLAM

A 350-word report on page 10 details a seminar organized by the Islamic and Arab Documentation and Studies Center in al-Fath Mosque in Ramsis [Cairo] under the slogan: "The role of the youth between the past and the present." It cites Shaykh Muhammad al-Ghazali as telling the participants that the nation needs the youth to hold the banner and defend Islam against the forces hostile to it. He adds that: "The Islamic nation is in dire need for those who will rejuvenate its religion and youth and this can only be done by renewing its faith, resources, and moral and material talents." He says that he is worried about today's youth who are led by their sexual desires while the nation needs the youth guided by faith and ideals. Another speaker, Dr. 'Ali Jum'ah, adviser to the World Institute of Islamic Thinking in Cairo, says that the problem today is that youth are getting science and data confused, believing that obtaining some data makes them scholars.

WRITER CLAIMS WEST CONTINUES PLOTS AGAINST ISLAM

A 450-word article by Majdi Salim in the "God is Merciful" column on page 10 argues that the West is continuing its plots against the Muslim world. He says that this plot is implemented on three tracks. The first one is the economic war that aims to "restrict our strength, exploit our natural resources, and limit our ability to use them to build an independent economic structure." He adds that the West uses people from among us as tools to implement this plot and to turn Islamic society into a consumer one. The second track is an intellectual one, where the West tries to impose its ideas and concepts on us "on the pretext of liberating our minds from restrictions and enlightening us to make us move away from Islam's tenets and our true religion, which represents for them the main obstacle in their struggle with the Islamic nation so that the Western way of life becomes ours, too." He argues that the West is also using tools from among us to achieve this aim. He then moves to the third track, which is the military one, citing the cases of Bosnia, Burma, Afghanistan, and now Yemen. He concludes that "this is a plot and we do not believe it no matter how much the West claims to support or back us and our only course is to hold onto the rope of God, understand, and get ready."

UNIVERSITIES PREPARE SUMMER ACTIVITIES

A 1,300-word report on page 19 by Salah 'Abd-al-Mu'ti details the programs prepared by various universities and colleges for their students during the summer holidays. Saying that the students are free to participate in the programs they like, the report adds that this year's plans include holding seminars and dialogues with students in the summer camps in addition to health enlightenment convoys that will travel to villages and action programs for students' participation in the development of villages. The report says that the Cairo University program varies between artistic, cultural, and sports activities and that part of these activities will tour the governorates. The report adds that al-Azhar University will organize religious enlightenment convoys that will tour the governorates, cities, and villages, especially in Upper Egypt, where leading teachers will lecture on the principles of religion and propagation. Meanwhile, Alexandria University will organize courses for teaching professional skills such as plumbing, tiling, and mechanics. Al-Minufiyah University's activities will focus on scientific training, such electronics, biology, and environment. Hulwan University's emphasis will be on various activities, such as computer training, the teaching of the English language, and chess tournaments.

The report goes on to say that al-Minya University will focus its activities on combating illiteracy and opening summer clubs to attract the young, in addition to science courses and sports. Asyut University's main activity will be "the friends of the police program, which will be the first of its kind and in which 500 students will participate in cooperation with the security directorate." Other activities include a forestry project, combating illiteracy, electricity training, and manual handicrafts for female students. Tanta University, the report concludes, will focus on a health survey of the governorate.

SAUDIS BUILD ISLAMIC COMPLEX IN UZBEKISTAN

A 400-word report on page 21 says that Islam Karimov, president of Uzbekistan, agreed to a demand from rich persons from Mecca to allocate a piece of land measuring 20,000 meters in the middle of Tashkent to build an Islamic center complex. The report adds that the complex will include a mosque that can accommodate

10,000 worshipers, an Islamic clinic, an Islamic library, a workshop for girls, and an Islamic studies center. It notes that the first stage of the project has already started and that the overall cost will be around $5 million.

Palestinian Affairs

Shadow Government Reportedly Formed in Jerusalem

TA1306151894 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Faysal al-Husayni is establishing a shadow government in East Jerusalem to be made up of nine ministries. A Palestinian source told our correspondent Moti Amir that the shadow government will be headed by a prime minister, two deputy prime ministers, and a financial inspector general who will deal with the expenses of the government and coordinate it with the expenditures of the Palestinian Authority in the self-rule areas. The shadow government will also include a political affairs ministry and a defense and general security ministry, contrary to the Palestinian Authority in the self-rule areas.

Al-Husayni Denies Report

TA1406052194 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Palestinian leader Faysal al-Husayni has denied reports that he is setting up a shadow government, but in an interview with Neil Sandler, al-Husayni confirmed that a coordinating body of Palestinian institutions was being established in East Jerusalem.

[Begin recording] [Al-Husayni] What we are doing is to make a sort of coordination between the Palestinian institutions. So, we will have no duplication, we will work with minimum resources that we have to create the maximum work that we could.

[Sandler] And that is specifically what? Who are the people that will be involved in this shadow government that you are setting up, and will they be residents of East Jerusalem?

[Al-Husayni] Another time: We are not talking about a shadow government. We are talking about institutions which is in Jerusalem, and we are talking about education and decisions we are [words indistinct] education, culture, health, other institutions who are from long, long ago, which is work for the peace and for creating the peace process. So all these institutions, who are helping the Palestinian people, are in need of a sort, as I told you, of coordination.

[Sandler] Now, how do you think this will sit with what Prime Minister Rabin has said about the fact—and other Israeli ministers—about Palestinian institutions that should be located in Jericho and not in Jerusalem?

[Al-Husayni] I don't believe that we have any of these institutions who are part of the Palestinian Authority in Jericho and Gaza. What we have here is institutions who were working all the time before the Oslo agreement and after the Oslo agreement. It was here before the Cairo agreement, and it will continue after the Cairo agreement. There is some institutions which is related to the peace process, and it will going on until we will end all our negotiations concerning the whole issue, including Jerusalem. [end recording]

Preparations Under Way for 'Arafat Return to Jericho

Arab Leaders Might Accompany 'Arafat

TA1306142994 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] The Haifa newspaper AL-ITTIHAD quotes a senior PLO source as saying that efforts are under way in several Arab capitals to bring Yasir 'Arafat to Jericho accompanied by Egyptian President Mubarak, King Hassan of Morocco, and Jordan's King Husayn. The source noted that this is apparently the reason for the delay in 'Arafat's arrival to the autonomous areas. Our correspondent Qaysar Kabaha reports that according to the PLO source, if 'Arafat arrives with these three leaders, the problem of his visit to Jerusalem would also be solved. The source added that 'Arafat is not interested in arriving in Jericho during the world soccer championships because these games will captivate worldwide attention.

Most PLO Offices To Move

TA1306184594 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent Ehud Ya'ari]

[Text] Sources in Tunis told us this evening that there is a delay and that Yasir 'Arafat will not arrive in the autonomous areas before the end of the month, perhaps not until mid-July.

'Arafat will not come alone. It now appears that two weeks ago the PLO submitted to Israel a list of 600 senior PLO activists, officials, and officers from Tunis in order to obtain approval for their arrival in Gaza and Jericho. Another list of 600 names is on its way. Altogether some 1,200 men and their families will arrive. Contrary to 'Arafat's original plan, his new move calls for moving most of the PLO bodies from Tunis to the territories. Only the foreign relations offices of Faruq Qaddumi and Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] will remain in Tunis along with several other branches. These offices will constitute a powerful rear headquarters. 'Arafat will also keep his residence in (Yugorta) Street.

The practical meaning of 'Arafat's move is the elimination—at least on the face of it—of PLO-Tunis and replanting it among the higher echelons of the PLO in the territories. 'Arafat has apparently decided not to keep too many institutions in Tunis over and above the autonomy institutions. One of the reasons for this is that he has received hints from the Tunisian president that it is time for a parting of the ways.

Some of the candidates for return have decided to temporarily leave their families in Amman. Most of them want to live in the West Bank rather than in Gaza and Jericho, in which only a handful of them can be housed. Israel has not given its approval yet, but most of the requests will be approved.

The lists include some important surprises. Several Fatah officials who were known for their opposition to the Oslo agreement want to come with 'Arafat.

Others, such as 'Abbas Zaki and Hani al-Hasan, are still undecided. In the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine there are signs of a split. Some 40 activists from the organization of George Habash—a firm opponent of the agreement—want to arrive with 'Arafat. Among them are (Abu-Nidal Musalmah), a veteran official in charge of secret activities in the territories, and 'Abd-al-Rahim Malluh, a member of the PLO Executive Committee. One of the two may join the Palestinian Authority. A similar phenomenon can be noticed in Nayif Hawatimah's organization, where some 20 activists are included in the lists of those wanting to return, among them Taysir Khalid, a member of the PLO Executive Committee. At the present time all of the above will apparently be allowed to return for only a visit.

The list, which is on its way to Israel, includes approximately 300 Fatah fighters from Tyre and Sidon who are awaiting the order to leave Lebanon and come to Gaza.

Preparations To Leave Tunis Noted

PM1306184394 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 11 Jun 94 pp 1, 4

[Report by Rashid Khashanah: " 'Arafat Orders Closure of Military Offices in Tunisia; Transfer of Cadres Awaits Israeli Approval"]

[Text] Tunis—A senior PLO official has told AL-HAYAH that the decision issued by President 'Arafat yesterday ordering the closure of the Palestinian offices in Tunisia 15 June especially covered the military offices attached to the commander in chief and did not apply to the PLO departments and offices in Tunisia.

The official, who declined to reveal his identity, said that the PLO's main military offices were in Hammam al-Shatt suburb (16 km south of the capital, Tunis). These offices were the target of an Israeli raid 2 October 1985. He put the number of these offices at about 50, concerned with the mobilization, guidance, command, and military security of the Palestinian forces scattered throughout nine Arab countries.

He stressed that the closure of these offices, including the office of the commander in chief, was also in implementation of another decision made by President 'Arafat, who is also the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution's forces, stipulating that no official or cadre should remain in the military offices in Tunisia after 1 July.

It has been noticed in PLO offices and departments that preparations are underway for the departure from Tunisia to the autonomy areas. The Palestinians have begun selling their furniture and motor vehicles, but no decision has been issued for the closure of civilian departments and offices, and there is no clear date for the cadres and employees in PLO departments to leave Tunisia. The general feeling, however, is that they will not remain in Tunisia after the end of July.

Meanwhile, a highly placed Fatah source has stated that the Organization and Mobilization Office run by [Fatah] Central Committee Member Muhammad Ghunaym (Abu-Mahir), the Ideological Mobilization Office run by Central Committee Member Sakhr Habash (Abu-Nizar), and the Office of Fatah's Revolutionary Council run by Hamdan 'Ashur, will remain in Tunisia until the end of this current year at least. That is in addition to the PLO departments which, it has been decided, will remain abroad. The most important of these departments are the Political Department, the Returnees Department, and the Arab and International Relations Department headed by Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu-Mazin).

Furthermore, AL-HAYAH has learned that the PLO has prepared a new name list of 1,000 people working in Palestinian offices and departments, mostly in Tunisia, to be submitted to Israel for approval of their entry to the autonomy areas. An official who participated in preparing that list said that it would not be handed over before approval is received from Israel for the first list of 601 officials and cadres who will accompany President 'Arafat on his journey to Jericho which was handed over recently by the PLO. He added that the new list contains information identical to that contained in the first list: full name, place of birth, office of work, and type of travel document held.

Palestinian sources have confirmed that President 'Arafat's move to Jericho has been postponed further, until the beginning of next month at the earliest. They said that Palestinian and Arab figures, including Muhsin Ibrahim, who recently came to Tunis to accompany President 'Arafat on his return journey, have now left there following the second postponement.

Personnel Arrive in Gaza

JN1306193194 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Reports received from the Palestinian territories today say about 270 Palestinian policemen and employees arrived in the autonomous Gaza Strip last night. This group, which arrived from Tunis and Cairo, is scheduled to prepare for brother President Abu-'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] arrival in Jericho and the Gaza Strip, expected late this month.

'State Welcome' Planned

NC1406122894 Paris AFP in English 1147 GMT 14 Jun 94

[By Marius Schattner]

[Text] Jerusalem, June 14 (AFP)—The Palestinians are laying on a state presidential welcome for PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat's return with 5,000 men assigned to security and logistics of the visit.

"We will need a minimum of 1,200 policemen and civilians in Jericho and three times as many in Gaza to protect Yasir 'Arafat and look after the logistics," one of Palestinian protocol officers told AFP.

"We are expecting that a quarter of a million Palestinians will come to Jericho to celebrate the return home of the president of Palestine," he said. "So many people will be a real headache for us."

Such an influx into the small Jordan valley town, with only one road in and out, will make it virtually impossible for 'Arafat to move around.

Jericho, where summer temperatures hover around 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit), has two main streets and a little square.

"We are faced with a dilemma: if we restrict entry we will spoil the day, if we let everyone in there will be a terrible crush," said the official, who asked not to be named.

The risk of an attempt on 'Arafat's life cannot be neglected either.

"An Israeli settler or even a Palestinian opposed to the peace process could take advantage of the confusion to try to kill him," he said, recalling threats from Jewish extremists.

The pro-Syrian Palestinian leader Ahmad Jibril has also called for 'Arafat to be killed following his signing of the autonomy agreement last September.

The official said 'Arafat should arrive in Jericho by helicopter, thereby avoiding the Israeli checkpoint on the Allenby Bridge from Jordan.

He would also fly to the Gaza Strip because a land journey would mean an Israeli army escort.

Questions of protocol are greatly exercising the organizers who plan to invite the nine consul generals and the Vatican's apostolic delegate in Jerusalem as well as a certain number of ambassadors based in Tel Aviv.

"All this is new to us," the official admitted. "How do we bring them to Jericho? How do we seat them? How do we greet them.?"

None of the countries they represent have recognized 'Arafat as the head of the State of Palestine.

'Arafat has given a written commitment to Israel not to use the title of president following the signing of the May 4 accord which launched self-rule in Jericho and Gaza.

"That does not change anything for the Palestinians," said Ma'in 'Urayqat, spokesman for Orient House, the Palestinian headquarters in Jerusalem. "We will roll out the red carpet for Yasir 'Arafat and receive him as head of State."

"The arrival of the PLO leader will give a strong boost to the peace process," 'Urayqat said. "It is in the interest of all the concerned parties that it goes off well. That means the Israelis must avoid any provocation by settlers or soldiers which would harm the political climate."

For the last four weeks, the head of 'Arafat's bureau, Ramzi Khuri, has been here working out the details of the visit.

He has chosen a luxury home and offices for the PLO chairman in lush green compound on the edge of Jericho.

The Palestinian cabinet of "ministers" will be housed in a new building which was to have been an old people's home and individual ministers have been alloted houses throughout Jericho.

In Gaza, the former Egyptian governor's palace, which Israel used as a border police headquarters, is being restored for 'Arafat. He will also have a private residence at his disposition in the wealthy Rimal neighbourhood overlooking the Mediterranean Sea.

"He is not coming as a tourist but to start up the mechanism of autonomy," a Palestinian official said.

The arrival is scheduled for the end of June or early July.

Ghawshah Comments on Upcoming Visit

NC1406064394 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0510 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Interview with Dr. Samir Ghawshah, member of the Palestinian National Authority and the PLO Executive Committee, in Tunis by Fawzi al-Jundi in Cairo; date not given; from the "Dialogue from Afar" program—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Jundi] Dr. Samir Ghawshah, what is the status of the preparations for the Palestinian National Authority [PNA] to assume its duties in Gaza and Jericho and for President Yasir 'Arafat's arrival in the self-rule areas?

[Ghawshah] Preparations are continuing for the arrival of brother Abu-'Ammar and members of the Palestinian leadership and PNA in the homeland in the Jericho area and the Gaza Strip to assume their duties, embark on a new phase in the reconstruction process, and continue the negotiations for Israel's withdrawal from all the

Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, including the city of Jerusalem. We hope that the Palestinian leaders will arrive in the homeland in the next few days.

[Al-Jundi] Have enough security measures been taken to ensure Abu-'Ammar's arrival in the self-rule areas, especially following recent threats by Israeli elements?

[Ghawshah] We believe that these statements aim to create confusion and to prevent implementation of the agreement. But we are confident that our people will foil all the settlers' attempts to disrupt the implementation of the agreement. The PLO, backed by our people, will undoubtedly put an end to all the plots and the plans to endanger the lives of our people and leaders.

[Al-Jundi] The issue of Palestinian establishments in Jerusalem has recently been raised. Is there is an intention to let these establishments continue their work or will they be moved to the Palestinian self-rule area in Gaza and Jericho?

[Ghawshah] The whole world, including the United Nations and international legitimacy, have issued several resolutions stressing that Jerusalem is part of the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied during the June 1967 war. Therefore, we are holding on to all our national establishments in Jerusalem. On the other hand, we believe that the Declaration of Principles agreement has stipulated that no changes or alterations should be made on the status of Jerusalem and that this issue will be discussed when the negotiations over the final phase begin.

[Al-Jundi] It was recently announced that secret talks were held between Palestinian and Israeli officials on the Jerusalem issue. How true are these reports?

[Ghawshah] I have no information about any secret talks. Our stance on Jerusalem is firm and well-known, namely that it is part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967.

[Al-Jundi] The development process in the Gaza Strip and Jericho undoubtedly requires a serious commitment from the donor countries. The Palestinian side expressed satisfaction with the recent meeting in Paris of the committee coordinating aid to the Palestinians.

[Ghawshah] The aid and support we are talking about is partial because the reality facing us is this: Our homeland was occupied by Israel for 27 years during which the infrastructure was completely destroyed, its economy damaged, and its establishments hit. Therefore, we regard any aid to be partial. Of course, we are grateful to all those who have given aid, regardless of the amount. But this is just the beginning and it is part of much bigger needs. Our people's efforts and resources will provide the major share of what we need. We believe that the partial aid given so far is necessary for beginning our work. But we stress that these sums are not enough. Therefore, all Palestinian resources must be mobilized while welcoming every Arab and international effort and backing to continue the process of establishing our national authority toward the goal of creating our Palestinian independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

[Al-Jundi] Is there a specific strategy for Palestinian action in the coming stage on the comprehensive development process that the Palestinian self-rule area in Gaza and Jericho requires?

[Ghawshah] The PNA members are preparing a draft plan on all the requirements of the development process to mobilize all resources and intensify all efforts to carry out a correct and sound building process and exploit every cent in the right way to alleviate our people's pain and build our homeland.

[Al-Jundi] Dr. Samir Ghawshah, thank you from the Voice of the Arabs.

[Ghawshah] You are welcome.

Sha'th Leaves for Gaza, Comments on Goals of Self-Rule

JN1406144194 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Report by Sophia 'Amarah in Cairo]

[Text] Cairo today bid farewell to a member of the Palestinian National Authority [PNA] formed to administer the Palestinian autonomous areas.

Dr. Nabil Sha'th, who will be accompanied by Monte Carlo radio in the car that will take him from the Egyptian capital to his homeland—where he will settle in Gaza, held a news conference in the Cairo this morning prior to his departure.

[Begin recording] ['Amarah] Dr. Nabil Sha'th: Let us brush aside the issue of your return home. What are the major difficulties that you will confront at the start of your new mission in Gaza?

[Sha'th] Our major difficulty will be with Israel. It lies in the implementation of the agreement signed with the Israelis, and the continuation of the negotiations, as provided for in the Declaration of Principles. There are still many issues that we and the Israelis need to work out and agree upon, including the release of all prisoners, the opening of a safe corridor between Gaza and Jericho, bringing the West Bank under the PNA's authority, and the repatriation of the persons displaced in 1967. We must immediately begin efforts to settle these issues, which were obscured by the Israeli [words indistinct]. Moreover, we must confront any problems the Israelis might create over Jerusalem.

['Amarah] Dr. Nabil Sha'th has also announced that Palestinian border guards will soon be deployed on the Allenby Bridge and the Rafah Border Post. He added that the Palestinians will shortly be allowed to move freely from the Gaza Strip to the Jericho area.

With regard to the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, Sha'th had the following to say:

[Sha'th] We will not allow people bearing arms to move freely on the street. However, we will not storm houses to seize weapons. As we once fought the Israelis, we will not now allow the Israelis to move freely with their weapons on streets and roads, and to use them to open fire on the Palestinians. In the same vein, we will not allow the Palestinians to open fire on the Israelis. We will not allow any of us to turn into a judge, indictor, prosecutor, and executioner. We will not allow this to happen. There might be some collaborators with the occupation authorities. Those who have any complaints in this regard must head for the Palestinian police, provide evidence, and demand a trial of those suspected of collaboration. If everybody acts conscientiously and out of a sense of responsibility; that is, if everybody believes in Islam, in their leaders, in a constitution, and a host of principles, then he or she must grant officials and leaders the opportunity to continue the struggle in its various forms in light of what is deemed appropriate by the current phase, taking into account what the Muslim community deems best. I believe that the Palestinian people now have the opportunity to achieve their goals. If we were to fail in this, then nobody would blame us if we return to armed struggle.

['Amarah] On the other hand, Sha'th announced that Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat will arrive in the autonomous areas next week to reside in Jericho.

In a related development, the Palestinian official affirmed that the PNA, which pledged to donor nations to achieve self-reliance within a year's time, is awaiting international aid modelled on the Marshal plan launched by the United States to aid the collapsing West European states in the wake of World War II, rather than a redemption operation similar to that of redeeming ruptured [word indistinct], as he put it. We will update you on relevant developments once we arrive in Gaza Strip. [end recording]

Al-Husayni on Delays in Release of Detainees

JN1306120894 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 0930 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Interview with Faysal al-Husayni, member of the Palestinian National Authority, by Sa'id Mu'addi; place and date not given; from the "With The Midday Events" program—recorded]

[Text] [Mu'addi] Mr. Faysal al-Husayni: The families of Palestinian detainees and prisoners are staging protest marches. What are you doing as a Palestinian leadership?

[Al-Husayni] In fact, we are facing a problem over the interpretation of the agreement that was signed in Gaza, as well as the agreement that was signed in Cairo first and then in Gaza. Our view of this agreement is that 5,000 Palestinian prisoners should be released before 11 June and that all Palestinian detainees should return home, except those involved in criminal cases—murders or ordinary criminal cases; those should be turned over to the Palestinian Authority. We were surprised that the Israelis interpreted this as meaning that he who killed a [Israeli] civilian is covered by this formula. They then came back to add that he who injured a [Israeli] civilian is covered by that formula even if he was tried at a military court. We now want to have, once again, a distinction; that what we were talking about was the criminal aspects and not the military cases, which, as is well known, had reasons connected to the confrontation with the occupation and ended with the signing of the peace process and should not remain unresolved.

As regards the other prisoners, negotiations on their release must start immediately after 11 June. Now because of this Israeli position, we demanded an end to the prisoner release according to the Israeli way. The prisoners should be released according to our concept, or a new agreement must be drafted with the Israelis on the way the prisoners should be released. We and the prisoners will be facing major complications if we accept the Israeli concept.

What I would like to clarify here for our brother prisoners is that their cause is one of our priorities. We insist that in the end all Palestinian prisoners must be released and returned home. This is a peace process and within this context—the peace process—all Palestinians must be released regardless of the acts they committed.

[Mu'addi] Mr. Faysal, the security liaison committee will meet today in Gaza to discuss this issue. Are there any proposals on the agenda?

[Al-Husayni] Yes. We are supposed to raise at this meeting the issue which we are facing in Jericho. A large number of Palestinians who were released should return to their homes immediately. The formula agreed upon in the past— that is; he who killed a Palestinian must remain in Jericho—means that he should remain in Jericho only if his leaving to his place of residence would cause problems. But if his leaving to his place of residence does not create anything that may harm the security of that person, then he must return to his home. Those who were arrested for wounding or harming others, these must return immediately, even if this is done gradually, but they must return because their cases are resolved.

[Mu'addi] Mr. Husayni, how many prisoners have been released so far on the basis of the Cairo agreement?

[Al-Husayni] So far, less than half the number have been released, that is less than 2,500 prisoners. Some 300 prisoners are now in Jericho, and at least half of them must go immediately to their homes.

[Mu'addi] Mr. Faysal al-Husayni, naturally you are now making arrangements in preparations for Yasir 'Arafat's arrival in the self-rule area. Has 'Arafat informed you of the date of his arrival and have you informed the Israeli authorities of 'Arafat's date of arrival?

[Al-Husayni] I can say that it will be in the second half of this month, not before 15 June.

[Mu'addi] Mr. Faysal al-Husayni, thank you.

[Al-Husayni] Thank you.

Hamas Renews Call for Prisoner Release

TA1306191494 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent Shlomi Eldar]

[Excerpts] The issue of the Palestinian prisoners is turning into the central issue in the territories in anticipation of Yasir 'Arafat's arrival. Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and the rejectionist organizations are calling for mass demonstrations in the Gaza Strip to protest the delay in the release of the prisoners. A leaflet distributed today says that the terrorist Rabin—as the leaflet depicts him—cannot be expected to release the prisoners. Almost 300 prisoners who according to the Oslo agreement must remain in the autonomous area are grounded in Jericho at the present time. Our correspondent Shlomi Eldar reports:

[Begin Eldar recording] The pressure being exerted by the families of the Palestinians behind bars imprisoned in Israeli prisons is growing. In a mass demonstration organized by George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Habash's picture was hoisted alongside that of thousands of prisoners. So far Israel has released less than one half of the security prisoners it promised to release, and this issue tops all other issues on Gaza's public agenda. This pressure has reached 'Arafat. He knows that without affecting the release of the prisoners he will not be able to come to Gaza and Jericho with peace of mind. Today he sent Brigadier Ziyad al-Atrash to address the crowds on his behalf. [passage omitted]

Al-Atrash will in all likelihood convey a message to 'Arafat advising him not to arrive in Gaza and Jericho before he succeeds in dissolving this protest movement.

The thousands of demonstrators later held a protest march in Gaza City, chanting slogans calling for the release of the prisoners. [passage omitted] [end recording]

U.S. Donates Communication Equipment to Police

NC1406112094 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 12 Jun 94 p 2

[Report by Halah al-'Isawi]

[Text] The Palestinian police have received the most up-to-date communication equipment used in the world today. Its range is up to 560 km. This statement was made by Muhammad Subayh, the permanent Palestinian representative to the Arab League and secretary of the Palestine National Council [PNC]. Subayh told AL-AKHBAR that the United States supplied the Palestinian police with this equipment, which is now being used in the region and the United States. Therefore, the Palestinian police force has received all kinds of equipment that will help it perform its duties properly, including revolvers, machine guns mounted on vehicles, kalashnikovs, and communication equipment.

He added that the Palestinian police force is still in dire need of money to develop their capabilities after power is transferred to the national authority. The latter will be concerned with performing the civilized role of a police force, such as combating crime and drugs, instead of the role of the occupation police, which was to track down the struggling citizens.

The Palestinian ambassador said he expects some chaos in transferring funds to the police until after the transition period is over. This is in view of the absence of police stations and posts after the occupation forces had occupied these stations and turned them into prisons and military camps. They did not develop or maintain them in any way. Even previously equipped stations were dismantled and removed when the Israeli occupation forces evacuated the self-rule areas.

Muhammad Subayh affirmed that there is a temporary agreement on issuing a Palestinian document on which "laissez passer" would be written. He said that he believes this is a very advanced step and that this document will be issued as soon as possible after the National Authority assumes control and a certain period of time is allowed for administrative stability. He said that the laissez passer document will be in Hebrew, Arabic, and English. He affirmed that it will not carry any Israeli stamps.

Organization of New Security Services Detailed

TA1006184594 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (LESHABAT supplement) in Hebrew 10 Jun 94 pp 2, 3

[Article by Smadar Peri: "This Is How the Palestinian Shin Bet Will Operate"]

[Text] Israel has opposed the involvement of Amin al-Hindi in the Gaza-Jericho talks, claiming that his hands are smeared with the blood of the 11 Israeli athletes massacred in Munich. Now al-Hindi is the strongest man in the Palestinian secret intelligence services.

Al-Hindi, one of the returned deportees, was born in Gaza 45 years ago. His job as the head of the PLO's intelligence apparatus in Tunis has provided him with considerable power and exposed him to very sensitive information. He was in charge of the interrogation of 'Adnan Yasin, the Mosad agent uncovered less than a year ago in Abu-Mazin's [Mahmud 'Abbas] office, and was involved in dozens of discrete investigations and the gathering of intelligence material on personages and institutions in the Arab world and Europe.

Al-Hindi crossed at the Rafah border terminal three weeks ago accompanied by a large number of Palestinian bodyguards who prevented all attempts to photograph the man put in charge of the overt and covert Palestinian intelligence services in the territories.

After rumors spread that al-Hindi was involved in interrogations, pursuits, and initiating intelligence activity in the Gaza Strip, he was very quickly dubbed "the bad man." Indeed, he has full authority to detain, interrogate, incarcerate, and make use of all the means he deems necessary to achieve calm in the Gaza Strip. For the time being he is not dealing with Jericho, where the routine security problems are much simpler.

Immediately upon his arrival in Gaza, the Israeli media reported that al-Hindi wasted no time in entering office. He summoned to his office a group of senior Palestinian police officers and asked them to update him on the situation.

The first conclusion that can be drawn from that meeting is that we are not dealing here with a Palestinian police force, but rather with units of military soldiers and officers. 'Arafat himself proved this point when he surprisingly replaced Ziyad al-Atrash, the Palestinian liaison officer, with 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Yahya, head of the Palestine Liberation Army. 'Arafat did not offer any explanation for this move. One can hazard the assessment, however, that 'Arafat did not approve of the close cooperation between al- Atrash and Brigadier General Yom-Tov Sami', the Israeli officer who worked opposite him. Perhaps al-Atrash was bad mouthed in Tunis, and venomous comments were directed to the all too receptive 'Arafat.

Like all Middle East leaders, 'Arafat is crazy about classified documents, is in love of briefings, enthralled by intelligence information—even if it amounts to nothing more than morsels. He is especially enamored by information provided by the uniformed men who were brought to Gaza and Jericho from Arab countries, where they have resided in the shadow of local armies: Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Iraq, Libya, and Sudan. There are new faces in the area who obey their commanders and wear ironed uniforms. None of them have read the Gaza-Jericho agreement, and they have not received a precise description of what they are supposed to do.

The mission given by 'Arafat to al-Hindi—his intelligence affairs confidant—is not simple. First, he must prepare the ground for the chairman's arrival in the territories and make sure there will be no "bad surprises" such as an attempt to harm 'Arafat and his entourage during his visit in Gaza and Jericho. Beyond this, 'Arafat has put al-Hindi at the head of a pyramid of five overt and covert intelligence networks. Al-Hindi pulls all the strings. He has to maneuver between intelligence services incited against each other by 'Arafat through devious means and by remote control from Tunis.

Al-Hindi, who compares his status to that of the Israeli Mosad chief, has arrived from Tunis with a well-oiled and organized intelligence apparatus. He is surrounded by some 200 to 300 agents, among them field agents, intelligence-gathering personnel, researchers, analysts, and intelligence implementation experts. This group, which is very close to al-Hindi, is keeping a low profile. In addition to these associates and his bodyguards, al-Hindi has transferred to his Gaza Strip offices an incalculable treasure: computers and boxes of disks including the PLO's intelligence archives, which includes thousands of names and tens of thousands of details. Only a handful of people know where to locate this rare archive which took years of hard labor to amass.

Under the umbrella organization of the Muhabarat 'Amma (general intelligence) we can find Muhammad Dahlan in the Gaza Strip and Jibril al-Rujub in the Jericho area. Al-Rujub, who is in love with the media, initially refused to limit his efforts to Jericho, until Israel limited his freedom of movement in order to curtail his operations over the entire West Bank. Al-Rujub brought with him from Tunis a dozen of well-trained intelligence officers, and until his movements were limited he managed to recruit local intelligence- gathering officers.

Dahlan, who is in charge of the Gaza Strip intelligence services, prefers to maintain a much lower profile than al-Rujub. Two local clans hold a grudge against him for the murder of Shaykh As'ad al-Saftawi and another figure suspected of cooperation with Israel. Dahlan, who since his deportation from the Gaza Strip has led the al-Shabibah—Fatah's youth movement—via facsimile machines, is a much less frightening figure than he was in the past.

Dahlan's main rival is Muhammad Sakir, whose life over the last three decades has already become something of a legend. Sakir, who surfaced in Gaza only 10 days ago, holds the title of "head of the general security service," a title that al-Rujub and Dahlan begrudge him. Before his arrival the journalists were told that during the 27 years in which he was a fugitive he has managed to move from one hiding place to another while carrying out terrorist activities, and that he has never left the Gaza Strip. Not everybody is convinced by this story. There are those who are willing to swear that a completely different version regarding his real whereabouts during this period will be uncovered soon.

Using his "divide and rule" tactics not only on the political level, but also on his newly formed intelligence community, 'Arafat has explained to Sakir that he is putting him in charge of al-Rujub and Dahlan. These two, who are much younger than Sakir, are making no bones about their opposition to the appointment of Sakir over them.

The third body among the general Palestinian security and intelligence services is the Amn al-Ri'asah, or president's security. Nobody has yet been put in charge of the elite force—which will include Force-17 members—which will be in charge of 'Arafat's life. The name most frequently mentioned is that of Abu-al-Za'im ['Atallah 'Atallah], who after a quarrel with 'Arafat defected to Jordan and who has been residing in Cairo over the last few years.

Abu-al-Za'im has made no secrets about his desire to head the Amn al-Ri'asah again, and 'Arafat has summoned him at least twice to Tunis to check the extent of his support for the agreement and his determination to exert firm control over the force. 'Arafat, however, does not regard Abu-al-Za'im as the only candidate for this sensitive post.

The fourth body among the Palestinian services is the police force under Nasir Yusuf's command. Like the Israel Police, this force deals with criminal offenses, violence, theft, drug abuse, and preventive action against undesirable developments. The police intelligence must report to al-Hindi, who in turn reports to Tunis.

The fifth, and for the time the last body is "special intelligence." 'Arafat gave this elite unit the job of snooping around the other intelligence networks in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. The members of this unit have to report to al-Hindi, but are also permitted to phone directly to the PLO chief in Tunis.

It is interesting to note that the PLO's intelligence and secret service community in the territories has been copied from the Arab multifaceted model. This is how this community operates in Beirut, in Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and even Tehran: A combination of compartmentalization and secrecy, with each network invading the jurisdiction of the other, all this with the knowledge and supervision of the chief.

At least three of the Palestinian intelligence bodies have recently entered a wild internal competition for solving two murder cases: The murder of two IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers at the Erez checkpoint two weeks ago, and the murder of two Palestinian civilians suspected of having been Israeli collaborators.

For Amin al-Hindi this is a matter of professional pride and prestige; he has to prove to himself, to 'Arafat, and to Israel that he can control the area and conduct things in a professional manner. He has to prove that he is no less proficient than his Israeli counterpart.

So far al-Hindi's performance appears to be very impressive and he is receiving good grades. Those who follow his performance are also taking into account the time factor: Only three weeks have passed since he entered his complicated office, which is only made more complicated by the clause named 'Arafat, who is not making al-Hindi's life any easier.

How is Palestinian intelligence operating? What is on the agenda of the secret intelligence services? It transpires that half of the very busy daily agendas of the three top men—al-Hindi, Dahlan, and al-Rujub—is occupied with dialogues with Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Islamic Jihad members, as well as with members of Ahmad Jibril's and Nayif Hawatimah's rejectionist organizations.

The rest of their time is occupied with guarding potential trouble spots: The Gaza Strip refugee camps, mosques, the central areas of the Jericho enclave, and the passages between Jericho and the Gaza Strip. They also make certain that no harm comes to the settlers, for example, in the Jewish synagogue in Jericho.

So far, they have scored quite a success on the ground. Spokesmen for Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], for example, announced their divorce from violent activity and their intention to become an opposition party. In a determinant and unequivocal campaign, al-Hindi has managed to stop calls of instigation by Hamas and Islamic Jihad preachers at the Friday prayers at the mosques.

The presence of the new forces in the Gaza Strip has already created an additional change. The Palestinian policemen who arrived from Tunis behave in Gaza as they had in their previous place of residence: They drink alcohol, woo women, and look for fun. Changes on the ground have become visible: Local women allow themselves to walk down the streets without a veil and are no longer afraid to cruise the beaches.

"We are on hold for now," the Hamas spokesmen admit, "studying the situation." One of them, Mahmud al-Zahhar, a spokesman for the returned deportees, last week revealed that his men have decided to declare a temporary timeout in inter-Palestinian terror. They are also waiting to see how many prisoners Israel will release and who they will be.

The current tension between Hamas and the Palestinian police is referred to as a dormant volcano. If this continues, they say with satisfaction, there is room for optimism. Yet, if the shortage of money and medication continues, if no real changes take place in living conditions in the refugee camps, and if foreign investors call off their plans to turn the Gaza Strip into the Singapore of the Middle East everything will collapse. Hamas will gain power, the refugee camps will become sources of unrest, and the big frustration will burst out in violence against Israelis.

Two weeks ago, Nabil Sha'th and Dr. Zuhdi al-Nashashibi came to Gaza with $5,000—a first U.S. grant to pay the policemen's wages. Initial reports indicate there is a deliberate class distinction: A Palestinian policeman/soldier will be paid $400 a month; a senior Palestinian police officer receives between $1,000 and $1,200 a month.

According to 'Arafat's explicit guidance, the wages will only be paid to the "men from abroad." After he threatened not to come to the territories before the donor countries act on their promises, allowing him to pay all the policemen, 'Arafat is creating a total disassociation between "local" and "foreign PLO" in the territories. Senior posts will be given to only returning Palestinians.

Is this logical? It certainly is. 'Arafat learned from Saddam Husayn. Paying a salary and taking care of your subordinate's needs ensures loyalty to the employer. The locals, whose intentions 'Arafat doubts, will have to make do on their own until the big money comes from abroad. 'Arafat wants to see his intelligence men well fed and free of material problems.

In the Gaza Strip last week they suspected that, though he is not in perfect health, 'Arafat in his twisted ways decided to act ill and spread rumors about a graver illness than the one he actually suffers from in order to once again postpone his arrival in Gaza and Jericho.

And, if the Palestinian Shin Bet believes that 'Arafat is really afraid of coming to the territories, our intelligence community believes that before his arrival, al-Hindi will take steps in advance to garner the most support possible from his own camp, as well as from us, to protect himself against surprises.

National Authority Bans Strikes in Gaza, Jericho

NC1006181894 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 9 Jun pp 3, 7

[Report by 'Abd-al-Ra'uf al-Arna'ut in Jerusalem]

[Excerpt] A responsible source in the Palestinian National Authority in the Jericho area has stated that strikes in Palestinian sovereign areas will be strictly prohibited.

In an exclusive statement to AL-NAHAR, the source said: Strikes express the rejection of a certain policy. However, under a national authority which represents the people, there is no reason to hold strikes.

He added: Strikes are allowed in other parts of the West Bank because they are a legitimate activity to remove the occupation. [passage omitted]

'Notables' Said To Fear 'Quasi-Military' Regime

TA0906194794 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 9 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent Ehud Ya'ari]

[Excerpts] Before leaving Morocco this evening, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said that he needed $120 million before the end of the year. In addition, he needed another $30 million per month for salaries and to cover other routine expenses. This sum is greater than the amount officials have been attempting to collect, and 'Arafat said that his arrival in Jericho was tied to receiving the aforementioned funds. Our Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari reports:

Notables in the territories are pressuring 'Arafat to hasten his arrival after they received hints that the PLO leader may postpone his arrival until next month. Following 'Arafat's talks with Morocco's King Hassan II, the Moroccans also received the impression that the PLO leader may decide to take his time. [passage omitted]

One of the reasons for the concern in the territories over any delay is the discernible trend toward the undeclared establishment of a quasi-military regime in the Gaza Strip and Jericho. 'Arafat considered declaring a state of emergency upon his arrival but was apparently persuaded to relent. Nevertheless, prominent officials in the territories fear a concentration of power, including the handling of civilian issues, in the hands of Palestinian army officers.

There is no shortage of examples: a major was appointed head of the education bureau; a lieutenant colonel was placed in charge of the mayor of Jericho; the commander of the Gaza Strip ordered mayor-designate Mansur al-Shawwa to appoint technocrats to the municipal council while ignoring political and coalitional considerations. There was a large police presence at the matriculation exams. Anyone stealing electricity can find himself facing a military decree. So can squatters on state land, corrupt land registration clerks, and owners of heavy machinery. The notables fear that the officer cadres will seize all the real political power and many Palestinians are protesting this, both within the Fatah organization, which has begun distributing membership cards to its activists in several locations, and also among the candidates for positions in the Palestinian Authority, which 'Arafat this evening called the government. So far, there are only 18 such candidates after Hanan 'Ashrawi and Sari Nusaybah eschewed their appointments.

On 'Arafat's instructions, the officers are doing their best to allay any concern and are personally participating in rallies in support of democracy and elections. They also promise to double the number of government employees to 40,000. There are complaints that the army is commandeering every vacant building, and even appointed ministers of the Palestinian Authority cannot find room for their offices.

As far as Israel is concerned, cooperation on security affairs is satisfactory. There has been a drop in the number of terrorist attacks although there have been delays in implementing the new arrangements on the Allenby Bridge and at the checkpoints from the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

The Palestinian army has also adopted a reasonably tough line against Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], which mocked it in public, claiming that its soldiers were scavenging for food instead of carrying out their duties. However, no weapons have been confiscated so far nor has the dissemination of propaganda in the mosques been prohibited. That is why despite the requests by Israeli officials, many Palestinian policemen are still walking around with loaded rifles, although they have yet to test their prowess.

'Abd-al-Shafi: 'Not Enough Democracy' in PLO

AU1406154694 Vienna PROFIL in German 14 Jun 94 p 60

[Interview with Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, "former Palestinian chief negotiator in the Washington peace talks," by Tessa Szyszkowitz; place and date not given]

[Text] Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, 75, is a doctor, the chairman of the Red Crescent in Gaza, the former head of the Palestinian delegation in the peace talks in Washington, but, first and foremost, he is the moral instance of the independent, lay Palestinians. Despite his criticism of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and the basic agreement with Israel concluded in September, 'Abd-al-Shafi advocates the success of autonomy for reasons of state.

[Szyszkowitz] How paradoxical: The Palestinians are given an autonomous territory and are not even able to pay the salaries of their police. Who is responsible for this disorder?

['Abd-al-Shafi] I cannot defend the behavior of the Palestinians. 'Arafat has only now nominated the provisional government! He should have planned much further ahead, which would have been possible. Another thing is the money, which cannot be distributed because there are no structures. The Palestinians themselves are to blame for this chaos. Of course, the Israelis are not exactly making things easier for us. We cannot move freely, the autonomous territories are closed off. And we can, of course, not accept that Israel continues to try to keep Jerusalem out of the debate.

[Szyszkowitz] From the very beginning you have been against the agreement. Does this not harm the national cause?

['Abd-al-Shafi] This autonomy agreement is bad. The Israelis still control everything. In Gaza they still keep almost 40 percent of the territory occupied. Yet, despite the shortcomings of the agreements, things are starting to change. This is why I am appealing to all Palestinians to cooperate in implementing the autonomy agreement as long as we do not forget to point to the problems.

[Szyszkowitz] What deficiencies can you spot in 'Arafat's leadership style?

['Abd-al-Shafi] There is still not enough democracy. Our people are tired of permanently getting orders from above. 'Arafat must strengthen and enhance the democratic structures. Officials should not be nominated only on the basis of personal considerations.

[Szyszkowitz] Still, the list of nominated ministers includes the longest-serving PLO leaders: men such as Faysal al-Husayni from East Jerusalem or Economics Minister Abu Ala, who worked out the agreement with Israel in Oslo.

['Abd-al-Shafi] Oh well, there are many more excellent people. It is not so much a question of whether these people come from the inner circle or from the outside, but whether they are qualified for their job. With all respect for the problems within the Fatah movement, the building of institutions requires competence and not personal loyalties.

[Szyszkowitz] The preparations for the first elections of the autonomy government are dragging on somewhat. Is this 'Arafat's intention?

['Abd-al-Shafi] First of all, we would need a neutral commission to prepare these elections. And then the polls have to be held as soon as possible. Everything we can do has to be done soon, there is no reason to put things off.

[Szyszkowitz] So what is the reason that all these preparations have not been made? Is it only because 'Arafat is not sufficiently organized?

['Abd-al-Shafi] To put it bluntly: 'Arafat has all the strings in his hand and does not want to let loose a single one. At any rate we must insist in close monitoring of the election, like in South Africa. We need all guarantees because we cannot afford to fail.

[Szyszkowitz] It looks as if even 'Arafat's severest critics were slowly getting ready to make a truce. Even parts of the Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] leadership have recently made relatively liberal statements.

['Abd-al-Shafi] I welcome this change by Hamas, of course. Nevertheless, I do not think that it will participate in the election to the autonomy government, but I would regard it as good if Hamas were to found a political party. The Islamists will never win a majority here, anyway.

[Szyszkowitz] Not even if the Palestinians here in Gaza were to lose faith in the current leadership?

['Abd-al-Shafi] At the moment, we first have to establish the structures. Then we will see. However, we all must try hard to act quickly. After all, the position of the Israelis is clear: They will go ahead with extending autonomy to the West Bank only if everything works here. This is why any delays that are our fault are excellent excuses for the Israelis. That way they can say: You see, they cannot even establish peace in Gaza. This is why it is so important for the Palestinians to concentrate all forces on implementing this agreement. I only hope that the PLO has understood that, too.

Editorial Calls For New, Younger Leadership

NC1406145794 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 14 Jun pp 3, 7

[Editorial: "The Significance of Abu-Mazin's Remarks"]

[Excerpts] Many Palestinians have welcomed the remarks by Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin, a senior PLO official and a PLO Executive Committee member. He said something to the effect that this generation of revolutionaries, who have led the revolution and the liberation movement since 1964, must hand over the banner to the younger generation. Abu-Mazin expressed doubt that the generation of the revolution would be able to transform and govern a state. He emphasized that the Palestinian leadership needs new blood to continue the road forged by the generation of the revolution with their blood, sweat, and sacrifice. They raised the banner of struggle in the sixties; now the younger generation must continue the march until the objectives are achieved. [passage omitted]

Abu-Mazin's remarks are sound, wise, and logical. He is addressing his call to the current leadership. who began the revolutionary march as young enthusiastic men who are wiser now that they are over the age of 60. He is convinced that the building of a state needs younger leaders to take over the responsibility. He does not belittle the role that his generation has played in leadership, a role that will always be an object of admiration by our people and a model of sacrifice to be emulated. However, he realizes that this is the code of life and the logic of history. National interest dictates that the leadership be handed over to a generation of Palestinians who have relentlessly fought the occupation for over 27 years. They are able to deal with their problems and issues with pragmatism and equilibrium.

Over the past decades the leadership has faced many challenges. It has taught the young generation the meaning of steadfastness and defiance. It has refused to submit to blackmail or to surrender under the most difficult circumstances. It has believed in the homeland's sacred mission and has carried it out with honesty. It has safeguarded rights and has not abandoned principles. Abu- Mazin's call to the leadership to give the younger generation a chance to shoulder responsibility stems from his awareness that there is a need to find a formula for transferring leadership, for he fears that a clash might occur between the new and old leaderships in the struggle to establish a democratic Palestinian state. Abu-Mazin adds that a new Palestinian leadership has emerged, whether or not the current leadership admits it or not.

Abu-Mazin's remarks reaffirm the leadership's awareness of the new developments on the Palestinian land, developments that require new and modern formulas to solve the problems not only with the Israelis—the enemies of the past—but also among the Palestinians themselves. There is a dire need to maintain the unity of the national ranks, prevent any breakup of these ranks, and to build new concepts based on solid ground so that the masses will be one hand building the homeland for the sake of which we have sacrificed so long.

Hamas Spokesman on Ties With PLO, Gaza-Jericho

NC1206080094 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 9 Jun 94 pp 1, 19

[Interview with Hamas spokesman Muhammad Nazzal by unidentified correspondent in Amman; date not given]

[Text] [AL-QUDS] What are the results of your repeated meetings with PLO officials?

[Nazzal] Following the signing of the Oslo Agreement, Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] leadership decided to freeze all official contacts and meetings with the PLO leadership. Since then, no meetings between us have taken place.

[AL-QUDS] But you have met recently with 'Abbas Zaki.

[Nazzal] The recent meeting with brother 'Abbas was at his request. We did not freeze individual contacts with officials opposed to the PLO policy. Accordingly, my meeting with brother 'Abbas came within this context.

[AL-QUDS] What about your intention to join the coming Palestinian Authority and its institutions and how do you view the future of your relations with them?

[Nazzal] I have informed brother 'Abbas of Hamas' official and final decision rejecting participation in the Palestinian Authority. We do not recognize this authority and do not believe it represents the Palestinian people. I believe it was imposed by a U.S.-Israeli desire.

[AL-QUDS] If legislative elections under the Palestinian Authority were held, would you take part in them?

[Nazzal] We believed and continue to believe in holding free and general elections that can ensure the election of a leadership representing the Palestinian people.

[AL-QUDS] What is the alternative to the Oslo Agreement you are offering to the Palestinian people and thousands of Palestinian families at home and abroad?

[Nazzal] Hamas offers resistance as an alternative to the settlement process. The settlement process which started in Madrid and ended in Oslo has brought about an extremely feeble agreement. The way it was drafted and its clauses constitute a liquidation of the Palestinian cause. We believe that the resistance and its continuation are essential for achieving a full Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian territories. Gaza was a burden to the occupation. What happened is that the Israelis traded their exit from Gaza for an agreement that has consecrated Israel's occupation of Palestine and granted the Palestinian administrative self-rule, thus treating Palestinians as an ethnic minority living under a Jewish state.

[AL-QUDS] But is Hamas offering resistance to steer the Oslo and Cairo Agreements toward the desired objectives?

[Nazzal] We believe that the Oslo Agreement and the agreements that followed it have interpreted the Declaration of Principles in a way that serves Israeli interests and harms Palestinian interests. Accordingly, Hamas believes that these agreements are the natural result of the policy pursued by the PLO leadership.

[AL-QUDS] Suppose that the agreement did not exist, what would have guaranteed that no more settlements would be built?

[Nazzal] When the PLO leadership decided to attend the Madrid Conference it made this conditional on halting the settlement activity. What happened is that the PLO has abandoned the condition it placed for itself. When the agreement was signed, no mention was made of removing or dismantling the settlements or even freezing settlement-building. So even the agreement does not provide for the guarantees referred to in the question.

[AL-QUDS] But don't you think that the agreement has preserved what is left of our land? Perhaps tomorrow we will not find land to negotiate about.

[Nazzal] I believe that the agreement has not dealt with the Palestinian issue as a problem of land, but a problem of a people. The land occupied in 1967, which according to the Security Council Resolutions is occupied land, has become, under the negotiations, disputed land. This means that the PLO's ceiling in the negotiations is lower than that of the so-called international legality, which is very strange. I do not believe that this agreement will preserve the Palestinian territories or what is left of them but instead will consecrate Israel's sovereignty of this area.

[AL-QUDS] But don't you think that the decision to take part in the negotiations has been made in the absence of an international balance of power and amid Arab fragmentation?

[Nazzal] Joining the negotiations under Arab weakness and fragmentation and in the absence of the balance of power is in the interest of Israel, and the Palestinians shouldn't have participated in the negotiations, because negotiations should be among strong and equal parties. Negotiations between a weak and a strong party will inevitably be in the interest of the strong, which will impose and even dictate its terms. This is what happened in the settlement process that started in Madrid and ended in Oslo. The excuses that the PLO leadership has advanced and is advancing for joining this process are supposed to lead us to results contrary to what the PLO leadership has expected.

[AL-QUDS] But don't you think that the Oslo and Cairo Agreements will prompt the Israeli leadership to abandon, even partly, the notion of Greater Israel?

[Nazzal] We must realize that the theory of Greater Israel still exists in the Zionist mind, but there are two approaches to it. One says that it can be achieved by geographic expansion, while the other, which is adopted by the Labor Party, seeks to build Greater Israel through Israel's political, economic, and cultural penetration of the so-called Middle East. One of the most important things gained from this agreement is that the Palestinians will be the bridge that the Israelis will cross into the region, thus achieving the theory adopted by the Labor Party.

[AL-QUDS] But the Palestinian National Independence Document stipulates the establishment of the Palestinian state on any part of Palestine to be liberated. So how can you explain your opposition to the establishment of a Palestinian entity on liberated land?

[Nazzal] When we see that any part of the Palestinian land is liberated we will be the first to express our support and blessings. However, we believe that the agreement is devoted to championing the Israeli sovereignty. We also believe that the agreement has not liberated anything. The settlements still exist in the Gaza Strip and the Israeli occupation has redeployed its troops and has not completely withdrawn. Therefore, how can we accept what they say about the so-called liberated land?

[AL-QUDS] But Israel is continuing the negotiating process with the Arab countries. Can Hamas guarantee its continuous opposition in these countries?

[Nazzal] The Hamas movement started and forged ahead in the occupied Palestinian territories. Hamas' principal organizational structure is still there. It will, therefore, not be affected by any political development that might emerge in Arab-Israeli relations. Also, I rule out any normalization in the relations so soon, particularly with regard to Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon.

[AL-QUDS] How do you envisage the future relations between Hamas and the opposition Palestinian forces, particularly the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine?

[Nazzal] After the Madrid Conference, we started to coordinate efforts with the opposition Palestinian forces. We succeeded in establishing a political alliance with them. This alliance aimed at forming a political base to confront the weak base set up by Yasir 'Arafat at the start of the Madrid Conference. We formed an alliance consisting of 10 Palestinian organizations to confront Yasir 'Arafat's alliance which is made up of only three groups.

I believe that the structure of our alliance is unprecedented on the Palestinian arena as well as in the Arab and Islamic arena. Our alliance included political and ideological currents in the "leftist nationalist and Islamic" region. We are trying to promote this alliance in the new stage that started with the implementation of the Oslo Accord.

[AL-QUDS] But what if the Hamas Movement wants to use its position in the opposition to gain the support of the masses to ensure its success in the upcoming elections?

[Nazzal] Hamas started as a resistance movement, and it has never aimed at assuming power. Furthermore, the authority they are talking about is nothing but an imaginary authority. It is an administration supervised by the occupation, and it is, therefore, a tool in the hands of the occupation.

[AL-QUDS] But all the provisions of the Palestinian-Israeli Agreement were signed. What is the most dangerous political challenge that might face the Palestinian people in the wake of the implementation of this agreement's protocols?

[Nazzal] This agreement has not dealt with basic issues that represent the core of the Palestinian cause. These issues have been postponed until the next stage of negotiations with the aim of promoting the agreement. This is because we believe that there are clear Israeli answers to all outstanding issues, namely Jerusalem, settlements, the 1948 refugees, and the Palestinian state. Hence, these issues will be settled only if the negotiations are completed in favor of the enemy. Therefore, the challenge facing the Palestinian people is to complete the march of resistance against the occupation and to reject the agreement and to consider it null and void.

Official Condemns Alleged Kuwaiti Aid to Likud

JN1306160894 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] [No dateline as received]—Muhammad Subayh, Palestinian permanent representative to the Arab League and secretary of the Palestine National Council [PNC], has said some Kuwaiti elements have met with Zionist party figures, and are providing huge financial assistance to the racist Likud Party.

In an exclusive statement to the INA correspondent in Cairo, Subayh added that extending aid to the racist Likud Party is a serious issue, particularly since this party advocates the establishment of greater Israel extending from the Nile to the Euphrates; calls for expelling Arabs from occupied Palestine; is striving to annex Jerusalem, the Golan, and southern Lebanon to the Hebrew state; and is engaged in instigation against Iraq. He noted that such Kuwaiti conduct is condemnable and unacceptable.

Subayh went on to say: If aid is to be extended, then Arab and Muslim peoples everywhere, and in occupied Palestine in particular, are in dire need of Arab aid. Extending aid to Arabs and Muslims in general, and to the Palestinians in particular, would be better than extending it to the fascists who are occupying Arab lands. He described this development as strange and unacceptable.

The PNC secretary urged Kuwaiti rulers to settle the Palestinians' dues, as well as deductions estimated at some $70 million, which they are still holding.

The Palestinian official noted the statements made by Ari'el Sharon, a key leader of the Likud Party, who has announced that it is the Zionist authorities alone who will protect Gulf oil, and that they will not allow any Arab country to develop and progress and build a scientific base.

Concluding his statement, Subayh said the Palestinian people condemn and denounce these Kuwaiti elements for supporting the racist Likud Party and other parties at the expense of the Arab nation and Palestine.

Algeria

Security Forces Kill 'Terrorists,' Seize Arms

LD1306195694 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] According to a statement released today, the security forces, in operations lasting a week and ending today, eliminated 11 terrorists and recovered an important quantity of weapons, including submachine guns, shotguns and automatic pistols. The operations were carried out in the provinces of Algiers, Chlef and Blida.

Egypt

Relations With Iran To Normalize 'Soon'

PM1306141694 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Jun 94 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Inclination To Normalize Relations Between Cairo and Iran"]

[Excerpt] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Political sources in Cairo have revealed an Egyptian-Iranian inclination to normalize relations after tension that has lasted 10 years.

This inclination comes in the wake of the first official visit to Cairo by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, during which he attended the Nonaligned Movement conference and met with his Egyptian opposite number 'Amr Musa. They discussed issues of common concern on the Islamic and Arab scenes.

Well-informed sources stressed that important developments in relations between Egypt and Iran indicate that positive steps are expected to be taken soon, but it depends on the results of the coming days.

Diplomatic sources have pointed to the two countries' endeavors to open a new page in relations based on surmounting the points of disagreement, working to eliminate them, and bolstering the issues agreed upon, especially what concerns the two sides on the regional and international scene, in particular Islamic issues and nonalignment. [passage omitted]

Continued Relations With Sudan Urged

NC0306142494 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT 3 Jun 94

[Text] Cairo, 3 Jun (MENA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has affirmed that President Husni Mubarak has defined clear and stable principles governing Egypt's Arab and international relations. It said that some of the most important principles are mutual respect, non-interference in the internal affairs of others, and respect for the privacy of each state.

The newspaper clarified in a comment today that Egypt is keen on extending bridges of friendship and cooperation with all countries and people within the framework of these principles.

The newspaper said that throughout history, Egypt has maintained relations of cooperation and brotherhood with the fraternal Sudanese people as a result of an imposed geographic reality that cannot be changed. However, there is also a joint factor that has preserved the lives of the two peoples since time immemorial: the immortal Nile River.

The newspaper added that Egypt has always cooperated with the successive Sudanese governments in private projects to maximize use of and benefits from the waters of the Nile to serve agricultural development in the two fraternal countries.

The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH continues: And as the great Nile River kept its promises throughout history and provided the two fraternal people in Egypt and Sudan with their water needs, Egypt also kept its promises in cooperating with Sudan to exploit the waters, irrespective of who took over power in Khartoum. Egypt always adhered to a firm principle which is that when it deals with Sudan, it deals first and foremost with a fraternal people.

The newspaper affirmed that Egypt has always stood alongside united Sudan, from the deep south to the extreme north. Egypt believes that Sudan is the natural hinterland of Egypt without any discrimination, and perhaps also without any account-keeping.

The newspaper expressed its regret that many things have changed in Khartoum, particularly inside the Sudanese Government, which is in coalition with the former Oxford student-transformed imam, who wants to rule Sudan with fire and steel in the name of Islam and religion, while Islam has absolutely nothing to do with it.

Concluding its comment, the newspaper said that we view our relations with Sudan in a grander way than Imam al-Turabi views this relationship. He wants to destroy relations with Egypt. The paper affirmed that these relations are relations between two fraternal people linked geographically and historically with each other. The two peoples will not allow these historic and geographic relations between them to be harmed in any way.

Mubarak Arrives in Geneva, Greeted by Officials

NC1306173694 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1542 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Geneva, 13 Jun (MENA)—President Mubarak arrived in Geneva tonight. He was welcomed at the airport by senior officials of the Geneva canton; heads of the permanent missions to the United Nations; Dr. Mahir Mahran, state minister for population and family affairs; Mahir al-Sadiq, Egyptian ambassador to Bern;

and Munir Zahran, head of Egypt's permanent delegation to the United Nations in Geneva.

Accompanying President Mubarak on his trip are Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif and Dr. Zakariya 'Azmi, director of the Presidential Office.

Security Forces Foil Peasant 'Terrorist' Plan

NC1406085294 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 13 Jun 94 p 18

[Report by 'Isam 'Abd-al-Jawad]

[Text] The security forces in Asyut have foiled a terrorist plan in Sidfa led by a number of illiterate peasants. The security forces foiled another plan in al-Badari last week. This is the first time that the security forces have uncovered a terrorist organization that was planning to carry out terrorist operations in Sidfa and outside that did not involve university- and school-educated people. The security forces arrested 19 people, including 14 of the leaders of the military organization in Sidfa that was involved in the implementation of terrorist operations in Sidfa and Abu Tij. Four members of the same organization were killed in Tima in an exchange of fire with the security forces.

ROSE AL-YUSUF has learned that the Sidfa organization was more accurate in the implementation of its operations and the selection of its members, whose identity was difficult to uncover. It planned its operations from a cave in Tima, in Suhaj Governorate, which was difficult to reach. The organization members established training camps for their operations in the Tima desert.

A security source in Asyut has said that the new organization was dangerous because all its members were illiterate peasants who are not so easy to uncover. The organization was led by Anwar Hashim Muhammad, 23, who is accused of involvement in more than one murder case.

The source added that the security forces have arrested 14 members of the military organization without any resistance. But four members escaped to Tima, in Suhaj, to prepare for new terrorist operations. The security forces, in conjunction with the state security in Suhaj, discovered their whereabouts and killed them following an exchange of fire.

The security forces, accompanied by armored vehicles equipped with Goryunov machine guns, cordoned off the eastern areas from al-Badari to the border of the Suhaj Governorate in one of the largest combing operations in the area to find other members of the military organization in al-Badari. Large forces were also combing the mountainous areas of Sidfa and Abu Tij from the west.

The security authorities in Suhaj are deploying large forces at the northern entry and exit points of Asyut and are combing areas in Tima and Juhaynah that are close to Asyut in a pincers operation.

A security source denied a claim by the popular organizations in Asyut that they can deliver Rif'at Zaydan [not further identified] within two months. The security source affirmed that the popular organizations know nothing about Zaydan because he frequently changes his identity and hideouts, and this claim is a new attempt by these organizations to win over public opinion. Only the security forces are able to identify his location and arrest him, and this is expected to take place within days.

Minister Denies Human Rights Violations

NC1406074594 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jun (MENA)—Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi has expressed surprise at the interpellation submitted by a People's Assembly member against him regarding violations of human rights and maltreatment of citizens and lawyers.

In his answer to the interpellation by independent deputy Kamal Khalid this evening, the interior minister said that Egypt enjoys the brightest era of democracy and its prudent leadership is now sponsoring a national dialogue to shape a safer, more stable, and prosperous future. He noted that calls for the protection of human rights are out of place in Egypt, adding that those who make such calls are encouraged by foreign quarters.

The interior minister pointed out that what the government has done to provide security and safety cannot be ignored, adding that preserving security and stability is our duty. He noted that the government, using legal and decisive measures, has confronted a conspiracy concocted by a group of wrongdoers who have deviated from the correct path and thought that they could undermine the people's accomplishments. The government has succeeded in curbing the threat of terrorism, he added, noting that the security agencies' measures against it has reflected the will of the people and that the verdicts passed by the Egyptian judiciary categorically condemned terrorism and all those who advocate it.

The interior minister pointed out that in 1993 and the past months of 1994 the Interior Ministry's agencies have thwarted a serious threat against society, legitimacy, and the security of the homeland and the people. During this period, he added, 257 terrorist cases involving 1,802 terrorists have been uncovered, thanks to the sound scientific planning, high-level performance, and extraordinary efforts of policemen. He noted that the interpellator's claims of violations of human rights are a clear omission of the facts and of the evils of extremism. He added: Let me remind the interpellator of the guarantees provided in the Constitution regarding human rights, the protection of the people's security and stability, and the procedures followed in prisons, which are under the full supervision and control of the judicial authorities.

Minister al-Alfi referred to the statement issued by the majority of members of the Lawyers Association in which they denounced the attempt by a few members who belong to the Muslim Brotherhood to control the association, adding that these members support terrorism. He noted that the interpellation refers to incidents involving some arrested lawyers. He added that these incidents are being investigated by prosecutors, who have decided to remand the defendants, 12 of whom are not lawyers, in custody. He asked: Did the deputy submit his interpellation because the government is doing its job in implementing the law and respecting the judiciary? He added: As for the question of the arrested lawyers, it falls within the jurisdiction of the judiciary. Al-Alfi noted that the memorandum attached to the interpellation elaborated about the question of mediation between the government and terrorists. The minister asked: What mediation does it refer to and why at this particular time? He added: The question of mediation between the government and terrorists has long since been settled; there is no room for mediation between legitimacy and illegitimacy. In the face of extremism and those supporting it, there will be nothing but extremely firm legal confrontation without hesitation, he added.

The interior minister spoke about the circumstances surrounding the recent death of 'Abd-al-Harith Madani. He said that investigations into and information about the explosions in some banks proved that the dead lawyer played a major role in the illicit activities and that he received organizational instructions directly from the terrorist Tal'at Yasin Hammam. The prosecution issued a warrant for his arrest. The defendant was arrested in his house in al-Haram and informed of the prosecution's warrant. Upon searching his home in al-Haram, a number of important papers were found.

He said that when the late lawyer was taken to his other house for it to be searched, he suffered from difficulty in breathing and was taken to al-Manyal Hospital for first aid treatment; he died there. The diagnosis showed that the cause of death was a severe asthmatic attack.

He noted that some defendants admitted the organizational role the dead lawyer had played; he was the direct link with Tal'at Yasin Hammam for transmitting orders among the leaders of the organization from inside and outside prison. He exploited the nature of his work as a lawyer.

He also received funding from the organization amounting to 45,000 Egyptian pounds, with $3,000 to spend for organizational purposes.

The interior minister said that the brother of the dead lawyer, Salah Madani, also belongs to the terrorist organization and is a defendant in one of the terrorist cases.

On the action by the Lawyers' Association after the lawyer's death, the interior minister said that we monitored some suspicious moves by the association that increased day by day, even after the official announcement about the circumstances surrounding the death. In fact, some lawyers tried to contact other associations for incitement purposes, but these did not respond. Hasan al-Alfi added that we are sure that there was a premeditated attempt to create sedition and riot. In particular, a number of people who gathered on the streets threw bricks and stones from behind the fences. After that, a number of the people walked out on the street. In addition, the police received information that some lawyers were armed.

The interior minister repeated that the security organs were quite tolerant of all the practices that were considered wrong, especially since most of the legitimate means were open to the lawyers and association members to make their demands known and pose their questions. But a small group of members violated legitimacy by attacking the regime.

He pointed out that 48 individuals were arrested, 12 of whom were not lawyers. The prosecution charged them with many things, such as participating in a criminal act with the objective to commit crimes of mobbing, demonstrating, attacking the authorities, hampering them in performing their duties by using force and intimidation, organizing a demonstration against the law, as well as spreading false statements to disturb public peace and possessing publications that incite demonstration.

The interior minister affirmed that no extraordinary measures were taken to confront the situation. The entire situation has been presented to the investigating bodies. He added that no one is above the law, despite the fact that the defendants are lawyers. He clarified that there is no alternative to legitimacy and that every violation will be firmly confronted with force.

However, false allegations will not terrorize us and we will not back down on our responsibilities before God and the people, he added. We shall not hesitate because our unwavering option is Egypt itself.

The interior minister noted that 120 defendants have been arrested in connection with the terrorist organization connected to the terrorist Tal'at Yasin Hammam.

The People's Assembly then proceeded to discuss its agenda upon a request signed by 35 members. The Interior Ministry was thanked for its efforts.

Editorial Faults Clinton's Human Rights Stand

NC1406091094 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 11 Jun 94 pp 1, 8

[Editorial by chief editor Ibrahim Sa'dah: "Human Rights at Auction"]

[Text] A motley group of agencies and organizations have come into being with a vocation, which they swear is sincere and disinterested, in human rights. Their sole aim, they would have us believe, is to comfort a persecuted humanity and extract its rights from the claws of tyrants and despots. They make such claims undeterred by the fact that in several cases the opposite has been proved; namely, that those defenders of human rights tend to lose interest in their cause once their motives disappear.

U.S. President Bill Clinton has every right to declare himself the best known, staunchest, and mightiest of all human rights defenders.

Bill Clinton's story with human rights goes back a long way. It began with his decision to run in the U.S. presidential elections, challenging the incumbent President George Bush who was running for a second term. At the time, Bush was still basking in the Gulf war victory, a battle which he planned and directed from A to Z, a triumph that brought happiness to the U.S. people and went a long way toward healing the Vietnam trauma.

Clinton, aware that Bush anchored his election campaign on his foreign policy accomplishments, based his own strategy on exaggerating Bush's failures in domestic policy. Aiming a swipe at Bush's foreign policy, he denounced Bush's dealings with dictatorial regimes that persecute their people and govern them with iron and fire.

Throughout his campaign, Clinton bemoaned the pitiful human rights situation in many countries, vowing that, if he were to become president, he would end U.S. cooperation with dictatorial governments regardless of how important their countries may be for U.S. interests.

Clinton accused Bush openly of turning a blind eye to human rights abuses and of supporting dictatorial regimes and providing them with assistance. More specifically, Clinton mentioned China by name and pointed out that President Bush ignored the massacre of Chinese students at the hands of the government forces when they demonstrated for freedom and human rights on 3 June 1989. Clinton said that Bush extended a hand of cooperation to the Chinese Government and conferred upon it the most-favored nation [MFN] status instead of imposing economic sanctions on it until it upholds freedoms and human rights.

Then Clinton won the White House's Oval Office from George Bush. Some days after he became President, it was time to renew or abolish China's MFN status. Clinton could not back down on his human rights slogan but at the same time could not ignore U.S. interests which would suffer if the relationship with China deteriorated. As a compromise, he issued a decision linking China's continued enjoyment of its MFN status with improvement in its human rights record. He gave it until June 1994.

Clinton was hoping that a change would occur in Beijing to give the impression that democracy had begun to knock on China's Great Wall. In this way he would fulfill his promise to the U.S. voters with regard to imposing respect for human rights worldwide, particularly in the People's Republic of China.

Unfortunately for Clinton, the Chinese Government denounced the U.S. administration's statements and maintained that any discussion of so-called human rights inside China would be seen as interference in its domestic affairs. More seriously, the Chinese Government announced that it would not accept threats and is not really concerned if the United States continues granting it MFN status if Clinton's administration links this status with the right to interfere in matters that do not concern it.

Clinton could not pick up the gauntlet thrown down by China. More strangely, the U.S. President felt compelled to announce that it was in the interest of the American people to seek rapprochement between the two countries. And so... realism overcame principle and economic ties between Washington and Beijing grew closer in a way that astonished everyone who expected them to deteriorate because China insisted on clinging to its own method of ruling more than 1.5 billion people.

Last year U.S. exports to China amounted to nearly $8 billion. This was necessary to provide jobs for approximately 150,000 people who would otherwise have been unemployed, particularly in California and Florida, two states of great importance in U.S. presidential elections.

To be fair one must point out that many men and women in the U.S. administration were shocked by the triumph of money over principle, including adviser Anthony Lake and the U.S. representative at the United Nations Madeleine Albright. They declared their rejection of any economic cooperation with China unless its government showed respect for human rights. These objections, however, were soon dissipated before the slogan (U.S. interests first) raised by Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen. The immense Chinese market is capable of enriching any industrial country and, according to the commerce and treasury secretaries, it would not be fair to the U.S. people to lose this market to the European nations or Japan.

The desire to secure the Chinese market for the United States was not the only reason that President Clinton was persuaded to ignore the issue of the lack of human rights in China. There was the additional worry about North Korea's reported nuclear capability which might threaten that region's security and stability. The U.S. administration believes that only China can persuade North Korea to accept what the free world wants from it.

This confidence in China's abilities carries a high price for Clinton. Beijing's government does not object to calming down North Korea on condition that all talk about events inside China and all accusations that it violates human rights end. This has actually happened, represented by the flow of U.S. investments to this most favored country.

I am not exaggerating when I point out the similarity—with some differences—between respect for human rights U.S.-style and the same slogans raised by many human rights organizations that are established every day in various parts of the world.

We have heard of a human rights organization established by several people who all their lives have been known as inveterate enemies of humanity! Not long ago they had high government posts and no one can forget how they used to suppress liberties, torture the citizens, and humiliate the innocent while raising the brazen slogan: Freedom is for the people but there is no freedom for the people's enemies.

The term "people" in the slogan referred to those who supported and defended the dictatorship and the "people's enemies" were millions of wretched citizens who opposed oppression, injustice, and tyranny and as a result were deprived of their rights and liberties. It is laughable to the point of making us want to weep that the individuals who raised this slogan that divided the public into freemen and slaves are the same ones who have now renounced the slogan and have become, after losing their power and influence, defenders of liberty and martyrs of human rights.

We have likewise heard about the establishment of another human rights society which is not perturbed by the terrorist acts of the past few years, designed to undermine Egypt's security and stability, in which dozens of children, women, old men, and police officers died. To this society it would appear that those who died in these terrorist acts had no rights that must be defended. More appallingly, this same society raises an outcry whenever it hears that a terrorist has been seized while committing a crime against the entire Egyptian people. It issues statements, holds meetings, makes threats and accuses our government of violating human rights. It asserts—as if it were an eyewitness—that the arrested terrorist was whipped, tortured with fire, and subjected to electric shocks to extract untrue confessions from him!

How astonishing is this distinction between the rights of a terrorist and the rights of an entire nation. The society in question believes that the terrorist must be defended and exonerated regardless of his crime and evidence proving his guilt and regardless of the innocence of the police of the charge of torturing him. At the same time, this society believes that the nation has no right to ask for protection from the terrorists' grenades, the murderers' assaults, their knife attacks, their metal chains, and nail-filled bombs. The members of the society for the defense of the rights of criminal terrorists believe that because the people do not want to entrust their future to the princes of terror, the propagators of religious ignorance, and professional criminals, they therefore deserve what is happening to them.

Libya

Palestinian Claims Responsibility for Lockerbie Bombing

LD1306215694 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Foreign news agencies and radios reported today that a Palestinian national, Yusuf Sha'ban, who belongs to Fatah-Revolution Command, stated before a Lebanese court that he carried out the bombing of Pam Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, six years ago.

These media organs, including AP, CNN, and REUTER quoted the Palestinian national as saying: I brought down the airliner over Lockerbie. I have already told the investigators, but my confession was not recorded. I repeat here what I have already said.

The Palestinian national's statement is the latest development in the so-called Lockerbie case. It is an element which should acquit the two Libyan nationals who have been indicted by America and Britain. These two countries should, furthermore, refrain from levelling such a false accusation if they really want to discover the truth.

The state-controlled Voice of America has stated that Yusuf Sha'ban's confession will embarrass the Western powers, which have repeatedly accused the two Libyan nationals of masterminding the incident.

The attorney of the two Libyan nationals, Ibrahim al-Ghuwayl, states that such a confession affirms his belief that his two clients are not guilty.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] What will be the position of your clients following the latest development?

[Al-Ghuwayl] Actually, this is a very important development. Had matters been proceeding normally toward finding the truth this new development should have drawn people's attention to carry out a comprehensive investigation in the presence and under the supervision of neutral and decent foreign lawyers, judges, and human rights observers.

It was a coincidence that Mr. Mitchell, who is my first assistant in the defense team, was here to examine the defense of the civil case against our two clients. We have been following the news with great interest. And it is our intention to ask—in our capacity as the defense team and in the name of the accused—the director of the criminal chamber of the [Beirut] district which was conducting the case, counsel Philip Khyr Alla, to investigate the new development, in view of the fact that the news agencies have reported that there was no indication that the Lebanese state prosecutor, Mr. Sa'id Mirza, took seriously the confession of the Palestinian national.

Given the fact that such information is serious, and that we have a legitimate and serious interest in it, we will, thereby, be requesting an opportunity to continue our investigation in the presence of a number of honorable and decent Lebanese, Arab and foreign lawyers and human rights observers. We will be informing the president of the court of the name of our colleague who will be selected to represent us in Lebanon in order to take the necessary measures in conformity with the law in order to enable us, in our capacity as a party with a legitimate interest in the case, to follow such investigation seriously.

We believe that any serious and unbiased investigation into this confession will affirm our firm belief in the innocence of our clients and that the truth will surely come to light and will prevail. [end recording]

Lawyer: Admission To Affect Case

NC1306195694 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1920 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Jun (MENA)—Ibrahim al-Ghuwayl, the lawyer representing the two Libyans suspected of blowing up a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, has stated that the confession made by the Palestinian Yusuf Sha'ban to Lebanese investigators today claiming that he blew up the plane, gives a new twist to his clients' case and confirms his conviction that they are innocent.

In a statement to MENA in Tripoli this evening, al-Ghuwayl said he was trying to contact other lawyers connected with the case to make the necessary arrangements to contact the Lebanese judiciary and obtain the details of Sha'ban's confession. He noted that he would then rearrange the documents of the two Libyan suspects' case.

Ibrahim al-Ghuwayl added that any negative reactions to the confessions made by Yusuf Sha'ban prove that there is a prior design against his clients. He said that in his capacity as coordinator of the defense team representing the Lockerbie suspects, he will contact Counselor Philip Khayrallah, director of the Lebanese Criminal Department.

Referring to news agency reports saying that in his confessions, Yusuf Sha'ban asserted that he possesses complete information, al-Ghuwayl said his two clients have a legitimate right to learn the contents of Sha'ban's confessions with the aim of revealing the truth.

Al-Ghuwayl added that he will ask the Lebanese judiciary to give him the opportunity to follow up Sha'ban's interrogation. He pointed out that this can be done with the help of Lebanese and Arab legal experts, representatives of the Arab Lawyers Association, and representatives of the UN Human Rights Commission.

He announced that he will inform the Lebanese Government of the name of the lawyer who will carry out the necessary legal measures on his behalf.

Al-Muntasir Addresses OAU Meeting on Lockerbie Suspects

LD1006193794 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1610 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 10 Jun—Brother 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation, delivered a speech [words indistinct].

He added [words indistinct] that what has become known as the "Lockerbie" crisis, which was made public in a sudden and planned manner on 1 November 1991, and despite the numerous efforts and initiatives...[agency ellipses] the three Western countries insisted on transforming a legal conflict into a political issue to achieve [word indistinct] against the Great Jamahiriyah, and resorted to the UN Security Council and issued three resolutions, 731/92, 748/92, and 883/93. Despite that, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah agreed to deal with Resolution No. 731/92 and took practical measures to respond to [word indistinct] condemning terrorism in all its forms...[agency ellipses] complete readiness to cooperate with any quarter combating terrorism, affirmed that there were no camps for training terrorists, and repeated its call for the UN secretary general to send a fact-finding mission to investigate that.

He added: "The only remaining part to complete the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No. 731 was that the two suspects appear before justice. As it is the case in all countries of the world, laws stipulated that the nationals of a given country should not be handed over for trial in other countries. Nevertheless, the Basic People's Congresses issued a decision stating that they did not object to the two suspects appearing before a fair and transparent court to be agreed upon." [passage omitted]

He stressed: "The Great Jamahiriyah insisted that the venue for the court must have all objective conditions required in any just court, because what was reported by Western media, what was written by a former CIA agent in his book, and what was announced by the director of the Swedish electronics firm that manufactured the timing devices refuted the main point in the charges against the two Libyan nationals, against whom the Western media had issued a verdict condemning them in advance. We would like to say here that this conference, in its 59th session, had called for a fair trial in a neutral venue.

He said for the sake of showing justice, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah did not object to the suspects appearing in front of a just and honest court that had all the psychological and legal requirements in order to achieve the truth, and to do the victims and their families justice.

He added: "You might agree with me that the style of the three countries [words indistinct] in tackling the case has caused us clear damage and injustice, and is not helping to solve the crisis in a satisfactory way."

He said: "In this context we would like to point out that international legal experts have studied the idea of trying the suspects at the headquarters of the International Court of Justice. [Word indistinct] and that the suspects' lawyer has agreed [word indistinct] to end the efforts to impose additional sanctions that will increase the suffering of the Libyan Arab people who have endured great losses as a result of the unjust sanctions of the UN Security Council Resolutions 748 and 883."

Al-Qadhdhafi Gives Interview With TIME Magazine

LD1306092594 Tripoli JANA in English 0829 GMT 10 Jun 94

["Text" of TIME magazine interview with leader of the revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by correspondent Margaret Sheno on 21 March; place not given—first paragraph in introduction]

[Text] Tripoli, al Sayf [Jun] 10, JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY—The American magazine TIME has conducted an interview with the leader of the revolution [Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi] on the 21st al Rabie (March) 1423. The interview was conducted by Margaret Sheno. Its text is as follows:

The Leader: Are you coming from America or from Egypt

Margaret: I was not able to come directly to Libya. I arrived in Cairo and hired a car with an Egyptian chauffeur. I traveled to Tubruq and Banghazi then to here. I crossed half of Libya to you. I crossed the world.

The Leader: We are sorry for the troubles caused by your government.

Margaret: Is this a fact?

The Leader: Certainly.

Margaret: Can you explain the style of this tent design? Are the colours of a special significance?

The Leader: That means the stars for the transparency of the sky and the sun. The yellow colour is for the desert.

Margaret: In a certain phase of this interview I will talk about politics but as we have met in the desert I want to thank you and I am sorry for not being able to speak your language. Can we start now by politics. What does this all mean? The desert we are close to your birth-place? Is it not so. The desert is one of my ways of understanding who you are when you tell me something I can understand it better [as received]. Don't you believe me? Tell me about your origins. You are a man of military training and you have written the Green Book so what does the desert mean to you?

The Leader: Firstly I am not a military man

Margaret: You are a military man.

The Leader: Since I was a student at the secondary school I started establishing the popular revolutionary movement and I created revolutionary cells.

Margaret: At the secondary school. Amongst the students?

The Leader: Yes, students and non-students. We joined the army in order that some of us pass through the army and use it for the revolution. I was not recruited as a professional soldier. I hate the military and I consider the military as a fascist organization. The military has destroyed the world it is the tool of invaders and tyrants which used it to cross the borders and injure the others and ruin the world. When I see the military badges I hate it because it reminds me of the badges of Mussolini and Hitler and then my theory calls for the abolition of armies as it calls also for the abolition of parties, parliaments, classes and governments.

Margaret: When did you start thinking about the revolution?

The Leader: Since I was 17 years old. Between [passage indistinct] the Libyans but in 1951 Libya was not like that.

The Leader: I started establishing the revolution since 1959

Margaret: Why 1959?

The Leader: That was the start of reason with me. It is then I knew that the third world was colonized and it is then I knew there was western colonization.

Margaret: Was that in 1959?

The Leader: Yes. At that time I was aware of it.

Margaret: What was the western power? Was there the king?

The Leader: In 1969 there were five American military bases in the Libyan territory. There were British bases, in fact armies, present here and there was the Italian settler colonization.

Margaret: An Italian settler presence in 1969?

The Leader: Yes.

Margaret: Then according to you in 1969 even with the presence of the king or others Libya did not belong to Libya.

The Leader: Certainly.

Margaret: What about 'Abd-al-Nasir? Does he mean something to you?

The Leader: He is one of the heroes of liberation in the world.

Margaret: In what way?

The Leader: Because he is a defender of freedom. The freedom of nations. It means that the nations lost an international defender. The cause of freedom lost by the death of 'Abd-al-Nasir.

Margaret: The military has destroyed the world and created chaos as you said. But when you came to power for the first time you built the army with Soviet weapons, you went to the south to Chad.

The Leader: That was in the beginning, but now it is over. It change [as received]. The army is abolished now and it is replaced by the armed people.

Margaret: The armed people means the people with weapons.

The Leader: No, it is the armed [word indistinct] now onwards.

Margaret: You are saying that and you are smiling.

The Leader: There is no state in the world that I did not survive its presidents and kings with the exception of Morocco and Jordan.

Margaret: And Syria.

The Leader: In Syria I survived three presidents since 1969.

Margaret: Is that true but [Hafiz] al-Asad is a president for life as I know. What do you feel when you see the departure of these people?

The Leader: I feel the intensity of my international experience.

Margaret: Did you learn from these people?

The Leader: Certainly.

Margaret: What? Perhaps I am wrong but I mean the good things?

The Leader: I know that. We call it the good lessons.

Margaret: What did you learn from American presidents?

The Leader: I knew what is America. America is not a nationality like other nationalities. Not like India or China or [words indistinct]. America is all the nations. All of us. We have made America and we are still making it. Even my sons if they go to America and stay there for ten years they will [words indistinct].

Margaret: Did your sons go to the United States?

The Leader: No. They have got the desire to go but if America allows them.

Margaret: Why do they have the desire to go?

The Leader: The elder son wishes to be the son in law of the American president.

Margaret: You are kidding.

The Leader: No.

Margaret: What daughter of the president, [words indistinct] Clinton I don't [words indistinct] don't like Arabs.

Margaret: I do not believe your son will marry the daughter of the American president. I do not believe it. Perhaps your son got [word indistinct] better expression. Do you speak seriously?

The Leader: Yes, I speak seriously. We have got a number of Libyan sons and they [word indistinct] Americans and offer sevices for the American people which they consider their people and they consider America as their second home. Some of them were educated there and remain there you have to thank us. We have highly prominent experts and scientists present with you. You have to thank the Libyan people .

Margaret: Thank you.

The Leader: Thank the Libyan people which is a small nation and even so they contributed to the making of America.

Margaret: You always have a feeling and the awareness regarding the size of your country and you always hold comparisions between countries as big and small.

The Leader: In respect of human beings we do not know of one big and one small. All the sons of Adam are equal—it is you who know the big and small and the iron and wood. Iron and wood. With weapons. With wealth these are your scales for the big and small that is the American complex. You always [words indistinct] the people as big [word indistinct]

Margaret: Let us forget the question of your son and marriage. Do they have a different feeling towards America?

The Leader: We differentiate between America and the imperilaist policy.

Margaret: Can you describe that to me. This will help me in explaining this issue to American readers. What are the American policies that you see?

The Leader: The ruining of other nations' economies.

Margaret: What nations?

The Leader: All other nations especially the third world is still colonized and is not independent yet.

Margaret: Even Egypt?

The Leader: All of us. The third world will enter the phase of liberation. There will be no presence for the west in the third world, no tourist, no relation, no company, no investment and no trade.

Margaret: And you support that. I thought you were a friend of President Mubarak. Is he aware that he is colonized?

The Leader: Even Libya is not independent yet. The battle for independence did not begin yet.

Margaret: All these western countries pump your oil. Why are you not grateful for them?

The Leader: They need the oil and if we want to punish them we will stop the oil from them.

Margaret: No.

The Leader: We might do it.

Margaret: What will you do for cash and resources?

The Leader: We are not in need of cash. We need independence.

Margaret: Why - I don't think so, especially oil. I have seen scores of Mercedes outside.

The Leader: This is colonization.

Margaret: You brought it.

The Leader: We should have manufactured it here or else we drop it. This is the first step we have to take. We will not import goods from the west. And then [words indistinct] the force of the east will be sufficient rather than the west.

Margaret: What is this force?

The Leader: China, India, Malysia and Indonesia.

Margaret: Do you have any relationship with this issue. Is it friendship or treaties?

The Leader: We will shift to these countries so as to deprive the west from the billions they used to enjoy from our countries.

Margaret: Who do you mean?

The Translator: The west.

The Leader: We will buy the goods from the Asian countries we will open our markets for them. We will [passage indistinct]

Kuwait

Canadian Defense Minister Begins Visit

LD1206142294 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1328 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 12 Jun—Canadian Defense Minister David Collenette arrived here today on a two-day visit during which he will hold talks with high-ranking officials on issues of common interest and Canada's role in liberating the State of Kuwait.

The Canadian minister is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, who is also heir apparent, and Defense Minister Shaykh Ahmad al-Humud al-Sabah tomorrow. [passage omitted]

Comments on Visit, Truck Deal

LD1306204294 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1942 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 13 Jun—Canadian Defense Minister David Collenette said today that in his talks with Kuwaiti officials he had discussed the possibility of strengthening relations between the two countries in defense matters.

Speaking at a news conference at the end of his two-day visit to Kuwait, he said: "We hope to work together on defense matters and that some of our companies will carry out commercial operations with the Kuwaiti Government." He added: "We particularly hope that the Western Star truck model will receive every interest from the Kuwaiti Army and National Guard."

He indicated that the truck deal is at "a very advanced stage." The Kuwait Oil Company purchased 63 trucks of this type in 1991.

Collenette described his meetings with Kuwaiti officials as cordial, and said that the visits of Canadian officials to Kuwait "express our concern with the stability of Kuwait and the region as well as Kuwait's future safety." [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

UN's Brahimi, Yemen's al-'Attas Arrive in Abu Dhabi

JN1406065194 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Jun (WAKH)—Lakhdar Brahimi, the UN secretary general's envoy, arrived in Abu Dhabi from al-Mukalla tonight on a visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] as part of a tour of the countries in the region.

He was welcomed on arrival by Shaykh Hamdan Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, minister of state for foreign affairs; Sayf Sa'id Bin- Sa'id, acting Foreign Ministry under secretary; and Foreign Ministry officials.

Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, envoy of 'Ali Salim al-Bid, and other Yemeni officials arrived on the same plane.

President Receives Brahimi

JN1406104694 Abu Dhabi United Arab Emirates Radio Network in Arabic 0930 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] His Excellency Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the president, received Lakhdar Brahimi, the UN secretary general's envoy, at the al-Jirf Palace this morning. Brahimi briefed his excellency on the results of his efforts to end the Yemeni crisis and implement the UN Security Council resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire between the two northern and southern parties in Yemen, and for the resumption of dialogue between them.

Yemen

Northern Official Blames Gulf States for War

NC1306172894 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 10 Jun 94 pp 1, 13

[Report by Sami Kulayb in Paris]

[Excerpts] 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, member of the Yemeni Presidential Council and assistant secretary general of the General People's Congress, has placed much of the blame for the current fighting in Yemen on the Arabian Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia. Their support for the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], he believes, is aimed at taking the issue to the Security Council for it to acknowledge the secession.

In a statement to AL-SAFIR at his place of residence in Paris, where he seeks meetings with French officials, 'Abd-al-Ghani stressed that what is taking place in Yemen now "was not born on the spur of moment, but is the natural result of several steps made by the YSP, especially during and after the signing of the Pledge and Accord document in Amman." [passage omitted]

Asked why the YSP is blamed for the war, 'Abd-al-Ghani said: "Since the signing of the Pledge and Accord document in Jordan, 'Ali Salim al-Bid has been preparing for secession. He ordered that the northern al-'Amaliqah Brigade be besieged, and he wanted to travel to Saudi Arabia immediately after the signing to say that the military situation dictated secession. But the Army's Signal Corps, which was united, discovered the scheme, and the Jordanian hospitality forced al-Bid to stay in Amman longer than he expected. [no closing quotation marks as published]

Asked whether al-Bid and Saudi Arabia had agreed in advance about the secession, the northern official answered: "Al-Bid himself said that in an interview to a Gulf newspaper. Indeed, he later blamed his brothers in the Gulf because they had abandoned him. All this indicates that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates have something to do, near or far, with what is taking place."

He added: "Perhaps no one likes to see his neighbor stronger than himself. Perhaps the discovery of oil helped strengthen the feelings of anxiety in the neighboring countries, which still attach great importance to the land. We suspect that some countries are working to divide Yemen, not only into two parts, but into many regions."

He said: "Calls by the Gulf countries to impose a cease-fire on the Yemeni Government are aimed at portraying the government as objector to a cease-fire. This would help bring the issue to the Security Council, and perhaps lead the latter to recognize the status quo and to the provision of direct and public support for the southerners." [passage omitted]

Concerning other foreign interventions affecting developments in Yemen, 'Abd-al-Ghani suggested that the Egyptian position is vague and directly linked to the Saudi position. He said the claim that Iraq is supporting the north contains much fabrication and falsehood. "How can one believe al-Bid's claim that Baghdad sent us warplanes when no Iraqi Air Force plane can take off without the permission of the international forces?" he asked.

'Abd-al-Ghani also noted the negative Russian position, reflected by the absence of the Russian ambassador from 'Abd-al-Ghani's meeting with the ambassadors of the Security Council permanent member states. This position, 'Abd-al-Ghani said, proceeds from Russia's economic interests in the Gulf states. As regard to the United States and Britain "they have no interest in breaking up Yemen unless interests are given precedence over principles and stability of nations."

He denied that the current situation has isolated the Yemeni president. He said: "Our contacts with the Gulf states and other countries have continued, and we are intensifying initiatives to stop the bloodshed among the sons of the homeland." He added: "Let us assume that we made a mistake in the past. We apologized, but we cannot continue to endlessly pay a price."

'Abd-al-Ghani ruled out the involvement of the Islamic trends or tribes in the situation. He explained: "Al-Bid tried to suggest that Islamic trends are influencing the decisions of the president and that Yemen will turn into an Islamic country like Sudan, but the facts disprove this, just as they prove that the legitimate army is alone in the battlefield. We are avoiding bringing the tribes into the conflict or arming the people because we are not engaged in a civil war."

The northern official stressed that the oil wells are far from the centers of the struggle "and that Washington asked for them to be neutralized."

Aden Official Cited on Developments

PM1306163794 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Jun 94 p 3

[Interview with 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Jifri, deputy chairman of South Yemen Presidential Council, by Lutfi Shatarah; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Shatarah] Sanaa stresses that Aden is seeking by all means to internationalize the Yemeni situation.

[Al-Jifri] The issue has been internationalized by 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih twice: once when he signed a document on the formation of a joint military committee which included brothers in Oman and Jordan and French and U.S. friends.

He thereby wanted to embarrass (President) 'Ali Salim al-Bid and portray him as the one who was rejecting the solutions, so al-Bid had to sign. He internationalized the issue for the second time when he launched military aggression against all the southern territory and not against the Socialist Party as he claims. [passage omitted]

[Shatarah] Are you satisfied with the Arab and international positions on the war in Yemen?

[Al-Jifri] Most of our Arab brothers and friends have adopted cordial stands which we will never forget. We thank them for these stands, which our people appreciate.

[Shatarah] And the U.S. position?

[Al-Jifri] It too is a serious position which demonstrates understanding of the issue.

[Shatarah] There are reports that the north is implementing a plan aimed at separating Hadhramaut from the south, setting up a Hadhrami state, and then merging the other southern governorates with the north?

[Al-Jifri] That has not run, nor will it run, through the mind of anyone in the Democratic Republic of Yemen [DRY]. If 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's aim is to achieve that through the aggressive war he has launched, he will not achieve it. [passage omitted]

[Shatarah] Do you believe that the delay in recognizing the DRY has contributed to the escalation of the fighting?

[Al-Jifri] World states are dealing with us—which is a tacit recognition. As for official recognition, without doubt it is on the way. Because we have a cause and rights. And because our people have maintained a heroic steadfastness unprecedented in our contemporary history. They have made great sacrifices for the sake of the DRY. World states cannot ignore something like that.

[Shatarah] 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih says that he will not hold a dialogue with the Socialist Party leadership but, instead, with the moderates and the unionists, in the sense that he rules out dialogue with you as a new leadership in the south.

[Al-Jifri] And who said that he is the absolute master in this world and thus can exclude whomever he wants and accept whomever he wants? Let him say what he wants. [passage omitted]

[Shatarah] What measures will you take in the event of the failure of the cease-fire attempts and the international envoy's mission?

[Al-Jifri] 'Ali 'Abdallah announced (for the media) his agreement to implement the Security Council resolutions in letter and spirit. But—as usual—he failed to fulfill that. And we have no other option than to stand fast, resist, and prevent him from entering, seizing, and toppling the DRY (Aden). However, we will comply fully with the cease-fire. And we will use our right to defend ourselves, the land, and out honor.

And the only solution to this matter is the dispatch of international observers to supervise the cease-fire. [passage omitted]

[Shatarah] What truth is there in the reports of Jordan's involvement in sending military engineers to work with northern forces?

[Al-Jifri] I have no details about that matter, and it was not expected of the brothers in Jordan. [passage omitted]

Aden Denies Northern Forces Near al-Mukalla

EA1306095394 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 2030 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Excerpt] A responsible military source at the Defense Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Yemen has categorically denied media reports on the battle within the Shabwah-Hadramawt Axis claiming that the northern forces have reached a point 55 km from al-Mukalla town. The source said these reports are totally untrue. [passage omitted]

North Denies Attacks on Aden Refinery

JN1306054994 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0330 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] The gang of apostasy and secession in the [Yemeni] Socialist Party [YSP] leadership has prevented a food convoy from entering Aden. Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council and supreme commander of the Armed Forces, instructed the Government to prepare this convoy within 24 hours, send it to Aden, and distribute it free of charge among the residents of Aden, the economic and commercial capital.

Deputy Prime Minister brother Dr. 'Abd-al-Qadir Ba Jammal explained that in implementation of the instructions of the brother chairman leader, the Government prepared a convoy of 100 trailers carrying large quantities of various foodstuffs.

In a news conference attended by correspondents from the local, Arab, and international media in Sanaa, the brother deputy prime minister denied the allegations and falsehoods circulated by the trumpets of the gang of apostasy and secession to the effect that the aircraft of the forces of unity and constitutional legitimacy are launching raids on the Aden refinery. He said the forces of unity and constitutional forces are careful not to harm this refinery or other vital economic installations.

Sanaa Reportedly Agrees to Cease-Fire

JN1306054194 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0504 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] A new three-hour cease-fire initiative was announced by Sanaa at dawn today. Sanaa announced the initiative at the request of Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister Brigadier General Mujahid Abu-Shawarib who is in Paris. This came in an official statement distributed to the press in Sanaa at dawn today. The statement says that the Yemeni Socialist Party leaders submitted this request to Brig. Gen. Abu-Shawarib, who referred the request to the command in Sanaa, which gave its approval. The cease-fire is for only three hours from 0600 local time [0300 GMT].

The statement adds that if the southerners do not abide by the cease-fire during the specified period, the northern forces will resume their military operations.

Brig. Gen. Mujahid Abu-Shawarib is playing the role of mediator between the two warring parties in Yemen to have them hold a dialogue.

Cease-Fire Fails To Begin; Shelling Resumes

NC1306074094 Paris AFP in English 0719 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Aden, Yemen, June 13 (AFP)—A ceasefire declared by the Yemen government failed to take hold on Monday as shelling resumed after a brief pause in bombardments that killed six more civilians and wounded 28, an AFP correspondent reported.

The government in Sanaa had announced a new three-hour ceasefire to start at 6.00 a.m. (0300 GMT), but after a brief lull the sound of artillery fire could be heard at the very moment the truce should have started.

President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih had ordered the ceasefire "to test how the other party will respect the new ceasefire initiative and to give them a chance," an official statement in Sanaa said.

Hospital officials in this southern port city said that six civilians had been killed and 28 wounded in overnight shelling by Salih's northern forces which damaged five houses in Al-Mansurah, a suburb of Aden.

Twenty-two wounded southern troops loyal to Salih's rival 'Ali Salim al-Bid were taken to the Al-Jumhuriyah hospital here on Sunday, officials said.

The Sanaa government said the ceasefire—the fourth announced since June 6—had been requested by the "Yemen Socialist Party rebels," a reference to al-Bid and his followers.

It said the request came via Mujahid Abu-Shawarib, who has been acting as a mediator between the government and certain YSP officials.

"The Yemen government agreed to this request and President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih gave his order to all military leaders to cease fire," it said.

"This period is to test how the other party will respect the new ceasefire initiative and to give them a chance.

"If they don't respect the ceasefire in this period, the Yemen government will continue fighting," the statement said.

On Sunday the Yemeni government announced a five-day period for dialogue to end a civil war raging between northern and southern forces in Yemen since May 5.

A previous ceasefire announced by Sanaa late Friday broke down when fighting resumed early Saturday.

Both sides blame each other for the failure of the ceasefires.

YSP 'Gang' Said To Bar Food Convoy From Aden

JN1306092294 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0800 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] The gang of apostasy and secession in the [Yemeni] Socialist Party [YSP] leadership has prevented a food convoy from entering Aden. Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council and supreme commander of the Armed Forces, instructed the Government to prepare this convoy within 24 hours, send it to Aden, and distribute it free of charge among the residents of Aden, the economic and commercial capital.

Deputy Prime Minister brother Dr. 'Abd-al-Qadir Ba Jammal explained that in implementation of the instructions of the brother chairman leader, the Government prepared a convoy of 100 trailers, 40 carrying wheat, 30 carrying rice, 21 carrying various products including peas, broad beans, vegetable oil, ghee, and tomato paste, and nine trailers carrying various kinds of vegetables.

Ba Jammal said that the Government informed the International Red Cross that it is preparing this food convoy as part of a plan for the free distribution of these products among the Aden residents in accordance with the UN plans and programs.

At a news conference he held in Sanaa yesterday afternoon, Ba Jammal said that the Government yesterday received a message from the Red Crescent and the Red Cross through their regional representatives in the Arabian Peninsula stating they had met with other officials and that the matter needs the approval of the other party, which, unfortunately, views this humanitarian gesture as a political action. He said that this is the story behind the obstruction of our humanitarian initiative by those who remained outside the homeland for 25 years and now returned to speak on behalf of its sons and prevent this assistance from reaching the sons of heroic Aden.

At the news conference attended by correspondents from the local, Arab, and international media in Sanaa, the brother deputy prime minister denied the allegations and falsehoods circulated by the trumpets of the gang of apostasy and secession to the effect that the aircraft of the forces of unity and constitutional legitimacy are launching raids on the Aden refinery. He said the forces of unity and constitutional legitimacy are careful not to harm this refinery or other vital economic installations.

Brother Ba Jammal said that contacts continue with the unionist leaders in the YSP, both in and outside Yemen. He explained that these contacts take place through national figures from other groupings.

The deputy prime minister, replying to questions posed by the media correspondents, tackled the national issues pertaining to the current developments in the Yemeni arena.

Salih Briefs UN Security Council, Maghreb Envoys

JN1306145894 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, today received the ambassadors of the permanent member states of the UN Security Council and discussed with them the latest developments in our country in light of the secessionist rebel gang's continuing violations of the cease-fire decision and its refusal to comply with Security Council Resolution No. 924. He referred to the numerous opportunities provided for that criminal gang to cease fire and end the shedding of Yemeni blood. The latest of these opportunities, he said, was the one provided for the fifth time to that gang this morning. Yet, he added, the gang continues its violations and its aggression against our Armed Forces, which observed the cease-fire decision and complied with the Security Council's resolution.

The brother president explained that by repeatedly violating the cease-fire, that gang is trying to bring in international observers and to internationalize the Yemeni crisis, pointing out that some states hostile to Yemen's unity are flagrantly interfering in Yemen's domestic affairs and encouraging the secessionist rebels to prolong the current conflict, in the implementation of plans to disrupt Yemeni unity. He said our Yemeni people absolutely reject any interference in their internal affairs and will firmly confront it, as well as all plans hostile to their unity and their democratic course.

President Salih then expressed his confidence that the permanent member states of the UN Security Council will take a firm and clear position toward these acts of interference in Yemen's domestic affairs, based on their support for Yemen's unity and its democratic pluralism. He said unity and democracy are the basis for stability in Yemen, stressing that they will never be relinquished because they are the true basis for a new Yemen—a basis which will realize the aspirations of our Yemeni people and which is in harmony with the trends of the new world order.

He reaffirmed our country's commitment to Security Council Resolution No. 924, as well as its decision to provide every possible support to make the fact-finding mission of brother Lakhdar Brahimi, envoy of the UN secretary general, successful.

For their part, the ambassadors reaffirmed their countries' support for unity and democracy in our country, as well as their readiness to support every effort for a cease-fire and to implement the Security Council's resolution regarding the Republic of Yemen. The meeting was attended by brother Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of civil service and administrative reform.

Today, as well, the brother chairman of the Presidential Council received the ambassadors of the Arab Maghreb Union member states to our country and discussed with them issues pertaining to relations between our country and the Arab Maghreb Union member states. They also reviewed developments in our country in light of the secessionist rebel gang's criminal acts against the homeland and the people, after it triggered war and infighting among the sons of the one Yemeni homeland.

The brother president explained to the brother ambassadors that the secessionist rebel gang is continuing to violate the cease-fire decision. It is flagrantly challenging the national consensus and international will, although that criminal gang has been given many chances to end the bloodshed in Yemen. But, he said, it continues its aggression on our country while it invites other parties' hostility to Yemen in order to enable the enemies of the homeland to interfere in Yemen's internal affairs as part of a secessionist, criminal plan to disrupt the Yemeni homeland.

The brother president then expressed his appreciation of the principled, firm pan-Arab positions of the Arab Maghreb Union member states and their support for their brothers in Yemen and for the march of Yemen's unity and democracy, which constitute a basis for stability in Yemen and the region and which will entrench higher pan-Arab goals. He expressed his confidence that these positions will continue for the benefit of Yemen and the Arab nation.

The meeting was attended by Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of civil service and administrative reform.

Shabwah Governor Cites Success Against North

PM1306152194 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 13 Jun 94 p 2

[Report by 'Abdallah Hammudah: "In Exclusive Statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Shabwah Governor Says: I Invite Lakhdar Brahimi To Ascertain Our Victories. I Am Finding Difficulty in Compelling Tribes To Stop Fighting"]

[Excerpts] London—Shabwah Governor Ahmad Farid al-Suraymah has said: "I am complying with the cease-fire and Security Council Resolution 924 in my capacity as governor and military governor of Shabwah Governorate. However, I am finding difficulty in controlling the Shabwah tribes and compelling them to comply with this resolution since they have begun to pursue the northerners."

He said this over the telephone from his command post in 'Armah (one of the directorates in Shabwah Governorate). The governor promised to exert his efforts to achieve discipline among the tribes. But he said: "It is a difficult task. It is a popular resistance, and I advise Brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to withdraw the remnants of his forces from Shabwah, otherwise I will not be responsible."

The Shabwah governor stressed that he is now at the approaches of 'Ataq, capital of the governorate. And that the distance between him and it does not exceed 20 km. He added that his forces have recaptured most of the governorate's territory, except some five square km in the city of 'Ataq itself. And that he has achieved total control for the southern authorities over the cities of Nisab, al-Musayni'ah, and 'Armah. [passage omitted]

The Shabwah governor said that he had invited Lakhdar Brahimi, envoy of the UN secretary general, to visit the governorate "in order to ascertain that we are in control of more than 90 percent of its territory. We are awaiting him." He added that this "refutes (President) 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's allegation that Shabwah is under his control." [passage omitted]

Al-'Attas, Brahimi Discuss Cease-Fire

EA1306163894 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Brother Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, the prime minister, yesterday met Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi, the special envoy of the UN secretary general, in the city of al-Mukalla, the capital of Hadramawt Governorate, in order to discuss with him ways of implementing UN Security Council Resolution No. 924 on a cease-fire in Yemen. The meeting was attended by brothers 'Abdallah 'Abd-al-Majid al-Asnaj, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Muhsin Muhammad Bin Farid, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and development.

Brother Lakhdar Brahimi, the envoy of the UN secretary general, also met representatives of the parties and of mass and creative organizations, as well as the sons of Hadramawt, who expressed their condemnation of the continuing war and fighting. They also expressed their total support for the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution calling for a cease-fire and talks between the parties. They expressed the hope that the UN envoy would be able to arrange an immediate cease-fire to prevent further destruction and bloodshed.

Iranian Envoy to Sanaa Stresses Unity

JN1306180394 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Shaykh 'Abd-al-Majid al-Zindani, Presidential Council member, today received brother Mohammad Jalal Firuz-nia, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Sanaa. During the meeting, discussions dealt with the relations between the two sisterly countries. The Iranian ambassador stressed that Iran supports Yemeni unity and national sovereignty, and believes the crisis should be resolved within the Yemeni framework.

Official Cites Resistance to North's Attack

EA1306193294 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Excerpt] A responsible source at the Ministry of Defense of the Democratic Republic of Yemen has said that the forces of the ruling military regime in Sanaa continued today their desperate attacking attempts on all the battlefronts. They launched random rocket and artillery attacks on residential quarters and peaceful villages in expression of the regime's hysterical state and inability to achieve any progress on all the battlefronts.

In a statement to the ADEN NEWS AGENCY, the source pointed out that the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Yemen faced with legendary courage these desperate attempted offensives. They inflicted crushing blows on the invading forces resulting in heavy losses. The source pointed out that eight hostile tanks, three armored cars and two Katyusha rocket vehicles were destroyed. The northern troops also suffered hundreds of dead and wounded. [passage omitted]

Saudis Said To Deploy Forces Near Border

JN1306174894 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1727 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Report by Ahmad Birru from Sanaa]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Informed sources in Sanaa have announced that Saudi troops are being massed near the common border [with Yemen]. The sources noted that more than 150 Saudi tanks have been moved toward the border, near the Yemeni district of Maydi, adding that these tanks have taken up combat positions.

The sources said Sanaa has officially asked the United States, Britain, and France, which have satellites, to verify these moves.

No official sources have confirmed or denied this information which has not reported by independent sources. [passage omitted]

'No Positive Results' From Brahimi-al-Bid Talks

NC1306192894 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Report by Tawfiq Jazulit in al-Mukalla, south Yemen—italicized passages recorded]

[Text] [Jazulit] The residents of Aden today appealed to UN envoy Lakhdar Brahimi to visit their city and learn about their worsening conditions as a result of the war, but he apologized for security reasons.

[Brahimi] *It is difficult for me to go for one reason: Namely, the security situation is unstable. The United Nations is evacuating people from there. I know that there is a shortage of medicine in the hospitals, but it is not possible for a UN plane or for the UN envoy to go there while the cease-fire is not holding. A Red Cross ship has been waiting for several days, begging in vain for permission to dock and unload food. These people have been my friends for 30 years; they are neutral. But there is one point on which we are not neutral: The need for a cease-fire.*

[Jazulit] Before leaving al-Mukalla, Brahimi met with 'Ali Salim al-Bid, president of the new state in south Yemen. Because the southerners stick to their position, the meeting produced no positive results regarding an end to the war.

[Al-Bid] *I believe brother Lakhdar Brahimi has learned about the situation. He has repeatedly said, even before he arrived here, that priority should be given to a cease-fire. I think he is right. We have to do everything to achieve this objective now.*

[Jazulit] Brahimi expressed the identical position to that of the southern political leadership concerning a cease-fire.

[Brahimi] *My conclusion is what he [al-Bid] has just said, that the brothers here support a cease-fire and the beginning of the dialogue.*

[Jazulit] Brahimi left al-Mukalla without convincing the southern political leadership of a federation or a confederation as a compromise solution. He also apologized to the people of Aden for not being able to visit them for security reasons. The southerners attach hope to a decisive Security Council decision. Otherwise, the war of attrition may drag for long. The war goes on.

Sanaa Official on Brahimi's Talks in South

JN1406064094 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] UN Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi has informed the Sanaa government of the southern leaders' conditions and demands for beginning negotiations on the Yemeni dispute.

A ranking northern Yemeni official told AFP that Lakhdar Brahimi contacted the leaders in Sanaa and communicated to them a list of questions and points pertaining to the guarantees the southerners want fulfilled to initiate negotiations with Sanaa.

The official added that the working group, chaired by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and tasked with holding contacts with Aden, will meet today to discuss these questions. The northern official did not elaborate further on these questions. However, Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, the prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Yemen, unilaterally proclaimed by the southerners, said that Aden calls for an unconditional and immediate cease-fire, the deployment of international observers to supervise its implementation, and the return of the aggressors, as he called them, to the pre-22 May 1990 borders, the date unity was declared.

Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas said this following his meeting with UN Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi in al-Mukalla yesterday evening, who later met with southern leader 'Ali Salim al-Bid. Following the meeting, 'Ali Salim al-Bid said that he briefed Brahimi on the deteriorating situation in Yemen, reemphasizing that priority should be given to a cease-fire.

Lakhdar Brahimi, contrary to what the southern officials wanted, did not visit Aden. He said this is due to the security instability there.

Brahimi left al-Mukalla for Abu Dhabi where he arrived yesterday evening accompanied by Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas. The Emirates News Agency says that Brahimi's visit to Abu Dhabi is part of a tour of several Arab countries in the region.

Radio Reports 10 Killed in Aden Suburb

EA1306204694 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Excerpt] A responsible source in the Democratic Republic of Yemen has told the ADEN NEWS AGENCY the following:

The Sanaa regime continues to violate UN Security Council Resolution No. 924 by its feverish aggression against the Democratic Republic of Yemen. It has been launching rockets since this morning against civilians and installations in the suburbs of Aden, the capital, in a hysterical and malicious manner. This led to the martyrdom of 10 persons, five of whom belonged to the same family. [passage omitted]

Aden Establishes Defense Council

EA1306212794 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, chairman of the Presidential Council, today issued Republican Decree No. 10 of 1994 concerning the setting up of the National Defense Council.

Article 1 of the decree provides for the formation of the National Defense Council as follows:

The chairman of the Presidential Council will act as chairman. Other members include deputy chairman and members of the Presidential Council, speaker of the National Assembly, prime minister, foreign minister, minister of defense, interior and security minister, finance minister, minister of culture and information, chief of the general staff, and, acting as rapporteur, the adviser to the Presidential Council on military affairs.

Article 2 of the decree states that it is effective from the date of its issuance and that it shall be published in the official gazette.

DRY Claims Need for International Observers

PM1406112494 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Jun 94 pp 1, 4

[Report by 'Abdallah Hammudah and Lutfi Shatarah: "Questions in Yemeni Streets About Benefit of Continuing War"]

[Excerpts] London, Sanaa, Aden, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, SPA—International envoy Lakhdar Brahimi yesterday concluded his visit to Yemen and meetings with the parties to the war there without being able to visit Aden as a result of the northern bombardment of it. [passage omitted]

Brahimi ended his meetings with southern leaders with a lunch meeting yesterday in 'Ali Salim al-Bid's house. The meeting was attended by Engineer Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Yemen [DRY]; Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj; and Muhsin Bin-Farid, deputy prime minister and planning minister.

Muhsin Bin-Farid told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT over the telephone from al-Mukalla yesterday that Brahimi met the day before yesterday with representatives of the political parties and organizations and ulemas. He also met with al-'Attas and al-Asnaj, stressing that "his basic mission is to listen to the southern leadership's view in the framework of the fact-finding process." He was provided with a detailed memorandum on the southern position.

Bin-Farid added that the southern leaders told Brahimi "of the need to impose the will of international legitimacy on the party violating the cease-fire" in accordance with Security Council Resolution 924, which stipulates "an immediate halt to the fighting and sitting at the negotiating table."

Bin-Farid said that the continuation of the fighting in Yemen—despite Brahimi's visit—"represents an attempt by Sanaa to use the fighting as a means to seize more land in southern governorates, while continuing to announce cease-fire initiatives merely to deceive foreign public opinion and impose a fait accompli." He also called for "adopting more powerful resolutions to force it to halt the fighting."

The southern official said that DRY leaders raised during their meetings with Brahimi the need to dispatch international observers "to supervise and consolidate the cease-fire." He said that "there have to be a third party in order to ascertain the quarter violating the resolution." [passage omitted]

Decree Renames News Agency

EA1306093094 Aden Democratic Republic of Yemen Radio Network in Arabic 2040 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Republican Decree No. 6 of 1994 was issued today on the renaming of the news agency of the Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Article 1 of the decree provides for the renaming of the news agency to revert to its former name, the ADEN NEWS AGENCY.

Article 2 of the decree instructs all administrative and technical offices to observe the implementation of this decree.

The last article of the decree provides for the decree to come into effect from the date of its issuance and for it to be published in the official gazette.

Saddam Said To Dismiss Intelligence Chief

JN1406093894 Amman AL-MAJD in Arabic
13 Jun 94 p 3

[Excerpt] AL-MAJD has learned that President Saddam Husayn has made major changes in the Iraqi security agencies. Major General Sabir al-Duri, director of the General Intelligence, was transferred to the post of an adviser at the Presidency and replaced as director of General Intelligence by al-Anbar Governor Mani' 'Abd-al-Rashid.

A reliable source arriving from Iraq said three more officials from the al-Duri tribe, which is known for its close links to the regime, were dismissed from their posts. These are Khadr al-Duri, member of the Regional Command of the ruling Ba'th Party; 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Duri; and 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Duri, who is said to have fled to Syria.

The Iraqi source said Maj. Gen. al-Duri was dismissed from his post as intelligence chief probably after it was discovered that the Iraqi intelligence service was involved in the assassination of the Iraqi opposition figure Shaykh Talib Suhayl in Beirut and the assassination of a German journalist named Lisi Schmidt [name as published]. An officer named Safi al-Tikriti was in charge of the two operations. [passage omitted]

Civilian, Military Salaries Increased

JN1206122694 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1034 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Brother citizens: In implementation of the instructions of leader President Saddam Husayn, may God protect him, and out of his excellency's eagerness to improve the state employee's standard of living, the following order was issued from the Presidential Office today, addressed to all ministries and departments not affiliated with ministries:

Based on the provisions of Revolution Command Council Decree No. 293 of 3 November 1992, the leader president, may God preserve him, has ordered the following:

1. The State employees and the personnel of the Armed Forces, Internal Security Forces, and special agencies shall be granted an [additional] monthly sum of 200 dinars.

2. The wives of those listed in Paragraph 1 of this order and their dependent children—up to a maximum of five children—shall be granted a monthly sum of 50 dinars each.

3A. The state employees and the personnel of the Armed Forces, the Internal Security Forces, and special agencies working in Baghdad city and provincial capitals shall be granted a monthly transportation allowance of 250 dinars.

3B. The state employees and the personnel of the Armed Forces, the Internal Security Forces, and special agencies working outside Baghdad city and provincial capitals shall be granted a monthly transportation allowance of 350 dinars.

3C. The transportation allowances mentioned in the two paragraphs above shall be added to the transportation allowances that the Armed Forces personnel and some state employees were receiving prior to the issuance of this order.

4. Retirees from among the leader president's friends and others with the rank of brigadier general and above from the Armed Forces, the internal Security Forces, and special agencies shall be granted a monthly sum of 300 dinars.

5. Retirees from among the friends of the leader president, both civilians and the personnel of the Armed Forces, the Internal Security Forces, and special agencies with a rank lower than brigadier general, including NCO's, shall be granted a monthly sum of 200 dinars.

6. Civilians and Armed Forces, Internal Security Forces, and special agencies personnel who have been pensioned off because of reaching the legal age or because of illness shall be granted a monthly sum of 300 dinars.

7. Those covered by the special care program shall be granted a monthly sum of 80 dinars, in addition to the salaries that they receive in accordance with the Social Care Law.

8. The increases granted in accordance with the above paragraphs shall be excluded from the ceilings of the salaries and allowances of the state employees and personnel of the Armed Forces, the Internal Security Forces, and special agencies. 9. This order shall be published in the official gazette and implemented as of 1 July 1994. Please take the required measures to implement what has been mentioned above.

[Signed] Hatim Hamdan al-'Azzawi, head of the Presidential Office.

Radio Cites UK Paper on Saddam's Health

NC1006153094 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1430 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] The British DAILY EXPRESS newspaper on Wednesday 2 June 1994 reported that tyrant Saddam has been undergoing extensive medical observation for some time due to his serious heart condition. The newspaper said that recently he has been frequently slipping into a coma because of the weak blood flow from his heart to his brain. The paper noted that the Baghdad tyrant has not made any public appearances due to his critical medical condition.

Mosul Fighting, Baghdad Explosions Reported

PM1006162394 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Jun 94 p 4

[Report by 'Adnan Husayn: "Clashes in Mosul and Explosions in Baghdad"]

[Text] The Iraqi Dispatch Authority, which is close to the opposition "[Unified] Iraqi National Congress [UINC]," has said that fighting broke out on the morning of the day before yesterday among Iraqi Army units in Mosul, which is situated in the area adjacent to the Kurdish region. It added that the roads linking Mosul with the Kurdish cities of Dahuk, Irbil, and Karkuk were closed after the start of the fighting, in which it said "the commander of a brigade from the al-Jubur tribe and another from al-Ghazlaniyyin tribe" participated.

Al-Jubur officers were one of the influential blocs in the Iraqi Army until two years ago when a group of them were accused of planning to overthrow and kill President Saddam Husayn. Scores of them were executed and hundreds subsequently dismissed from service.

A UINC official told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT over the telephone yesterday from his office in Salah al-Din in Iraqi Kurdistan that the roads between Mosul and the Kurdish areas were reopened yesterday and that he had received information that clashes took place a few days ago among Iraqi military units stationed around Karkuk.

The Iraqi Dispatch Authority said that "three successive explosions occurred in Baghdad 30 May." And that the first explosion occurred "in Saddam Husayn's new house in Corniche al-A'zamiyah" on the Tigris River and the second "in the Ba'th Party's headquarters in al-A'zamiyah."

On the situation in the Kurdish areas UINC sources said that the fighting among the warring Kurdish militias has stopped in the Halabjah area adjacent to the border with Iran. And that the cease-fire and disengagement of the forces were holding in the Qal'at Dizah area yesterday.

Kurdish Organizations Sign Cease-Fire Accord

JN1006211294 (Clandestine) Kurdistan Voice of Unification in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] The operations room in the al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate has started its work. It met in the area under the control of the Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP] and the Islamic Movement. It is noteworthy that most of the areas north and east of al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate are under the control of the peshmerga and mujahidin of our KDP and the Islamic Movement.

The operations room held its first meeting in (Girdanata), situated a few kilometers east of Sayyid Sadiq. The following decisions were made:

A comprehensive cease-fire; the formation of a subcommittee for operations from representatives of the INC [Iraqi National Congress] and the three parties—the KDP, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK], and the Islamic Movement.

Decision: The operations room decided the following at its meeting in the village of (Girdanata):

1. The PUK should withdraw its forces from the villages of Gamish Tappah and Nawgirdan. The INC forces will be stationed there. The KDP and the Islamic Movement forces shall not enter the two villages.

2. The INC will control the village of (Girdanata) and act as an observation post for the signatories.

The decision was signed by Brigadier General Talal al-'Ubaydi for the INC, Jawhar Namiq for the KDP, Mulazim 'Umar 'Abdallah for the PUK, and Kamil 'Ali for the Islamic Movement.

Barzani Clarifies Statement on UN Trusteeship

JN1106200794 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Mr. Mas'ud Barzani has issued a press statement clarifying the ambiguities in his recent statements calling for placing Iraqi Kurdistan under UN trusteeship, or making it a protectorate under the canopy of international peacekeeping forces. The following is the text of the press statement:

On 6 June 1994, the BBC, British papers, and AFP carried my statement in which I call for placing Iraqi Kurdistan under UN trusteeship or making it a protectorate under the canopy of international peacekeeping forces. It is important for us to explain the following to the Iraqi people, the national opposition forces, and the governments involved:

1. The statement was interpreted by some people as a call to partition and divide Iraq. We deny this in part and parcel. The statement came as an attempt to find a description for the anomalous situation of Iraqi Kurdistan. Though the Western countries alliance provide protection and there is a local Kurdish administration, this administration suffers from the weak support of the foreign humanitarian organizations operating in the region and from the countries which are offering humanitarian aid, and also from the weak cooperation between it and these organizations and countries. This makes it less capable of tackling economic and security issues.

2. We are grateful for and highly value the protection the alliance countries afford through Provide Comfort and the efforts that UN agencies and foreign nongovernmental organizations exert. Had it not been for this protection and assistance, another humanitarian tragedy would have befallen the besieged and isolated Kurdish people.

3. Thanks to the peace efforts that were exerted by all good people, particularly the practical steps made by the

Unified Iraqi National Congress [UINC] center of operations, the Kurdish crisis was contained by the Kurdish leadership itself and the help of the UINC, and the cease-fire was entrenched. The process of normalizing the state of affairs continues. The dialogue and reconciliation between the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, and the other parties are in full swing to achieve comprehensive peace and to seek practical formulas for joint cooperation between the two sides in the future.

4. We support Iraq's unity, and our policy is constant in this respect and has not changed. We also carry out activities as part of the Iraqi opposition, represented by the UINC, and abide by its program and objectives of establishing a democratic and multiparty replacement that would achieve federalism within the framework of a unified Iraq. We firmly believe that the Kurdish problem should be solved within the context of the broader Iraqi problem.

To avoid any ambiguities and obscurity we deemed it necessary to issue this press statement.

Signed: Mas'ud Barzani, 9 June 1994

AL-THAWRAH Condemns Saudi Role in Yemen

JN1306094694 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jun (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has said that the Saudi regime's role in the Yemeni crisis is much larger and more serious than mere involvement because it is a flagrant and exposed conspiratorial role. This role is not confined to supplying the renegade secessionists with arms, but also provides political support for the secessionists, interferes in Yemen's internal affairs, and exploits the crisis to annex new Yemeni territory.

In an article today, the paper, speaking for the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says that any political observer with minimum awareness of the nature of the reactionary Saudi regime and its policies, connections, and position on Arab unity in general and Yemeni unity in particular will never be surprised by the statements of 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, Yemeni minister of planning and development, about Saudi Arabia, which is now a party supporting the secessionists and supplying them with unlimited quantities of arms purchased from East European states.

AL-THAWRAH adds that the Saudi regime has begun to reveal its conspiratorial role in the Yemeni crisis, and is now acting openly, contrary to what it did when the crisis first erupted when it falsely proclaimed concern for Yemeni unity. The paper notes that the false allegations made by the renegades that this or that Arab state is taking part in the war alongside the forces of legitimacy were merely a desperate and exposed attempt to cover the fact that the Saudi regime supplied them with arms and military hardware, especially after the forces of legitimacy seized 80 tanks sent from the Saudis to the secessionists.

AL-THAWRAH points to the Saudi forces' buildup on the Yemeni border and to the military city which the agent henchman Fahd ordered to be quickly built on the Yemeni border. This clearly exposes the Saudi regime's insistence on playing its non-pan-Arab and unethical role against the fraternal Yemeni people.

Concluding its article, the paper says: Regardless of their conspiracy and treasonous conduct against the Arab nation, the rulers of Saudi Arabia cannot halt the movement of history and will not succeed in perpetuating their corrupt and worn-out regime.

Ramadan Calls For Disease Prevention Efforts

JN0706085094 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and vice president, has called for spreading health awareness among citizens and enhancing ways to prevent disease through domestic educational programs and popular seminars in the cities and villages of our great Iraq in order to prevent illnesses before treating them.

During a meeting with the head and members of the Iraqi Red Crescent Society, Ramadan described the suffering of the sons of our people, particularly the children and elderly, due to the blockade and resulting shortage of medicines as the crime of the age, a violation of human rights, and an encroachment on divine values and international charters.

The vice president added that the continued food and medicine blockade on the Iraqi people has exposed both the enemies of mankind and those who are using the defense of human rights, peoples' freedom, and peoples' prosperity, as a disguise. He noted the importance of moves by charitable and humanitarian organizations to reject the U.S.-led hostile policy which is implemented by the U.S. allies who are fighting the Iraqi people using food and medicines after they failed to harm them through a wide military aggression.

Dr. Sa'dun Khalifah, head of the Society, reviewed its efforts to alleviate the illnesses which the children and elderly are suffering as a result of the continued blockade.

Columnist Attacks 'Soaring' Pharmacy Prices

JN1206200594 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 9 Jun 94 p 12

["Above the Red Line" column by Fawzi Ibrahim: "Medicine Trade Too!"]

[Text] It seems that the cancer of soaring prices is not confined to basic commodities and other materials but acutely and clearly affects the medicine trade, although the state provides medical necessities and medicines for the citizens by importing and marketing them. A specialized institution is carrying out that duty and is distributing these necessities and medicines to pharmacies and other marketing centers. A new group of people, however, has entered the trade markets along with traders, brokers, and parasites on this profession, which are using various ways to torture the sons of their people and to suck their blood in order to make huge profits and to become wealthy at the expense of millions of poor, patient people. God, conscience, and history will punish this group of people for standing in the ranks of Iraq's enemies, which want to hurt the patient people.

Regrettably, the pharmacies have been drifted by this current and have imposed high prices on pharmaceutical materials and necessities and medicines, although the Medicine Corporation has fixed the prices of these materials. Woe unto you if you ask the pharmacist any question. He may refuse to give you the medicine which you badly need even if you pay him a fortune. This is not how the elite treat each other. They do not forget their patriotism to make profits at the expense of the sick and the poor of our people. Some pharmacies even sell medicines and antibiotics to hospitals or private clinics, instead of displaying them, so that they can avoid questioning. At the same time, these hospitals ask for fantastic prices. In this way, pharmacists avoid embarrassment before the citizens. The majority of the pharmacies also exploit weak control, inspection, and follow up by the competent authorities to invent ways to sell these medicines as imported materials. Although these pharmacies were charged by the competent authorities with violating the fixed prices, they resumed their violations following the end of their closure periods. The pharmacists union should take a firm position toward these violators by withdrawing their licenses, the Medicine Corporation should cancel agency contracts with them, and the security, party, and popular institutions are urged to follow up and deal with this phenomenon like other phenomena which have recently surfaced, especially the phenomenon of the surging prices of basic commodities.

Ministry Report Details Embargo-Caused Deaths

JN1306111094 Baghdad INA in English 0840 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Baghdad, June 13, INA—Some 4,574 Iraqi people have reported dead over the past month of April because of the negative consequences of the ongoing economic sanctions. [sentence as received]

A recent report by the Ministry of Health has showed an alarming rise in mortality rate among Iraqi people, and in particular among children over the past month of April (three and a half years after the imposition of the embargo) in camparison with mortality rate recorded during the same period in 1989 (a year before the imposition of the embargo).

The report blamed the rise in mortality rate to the dearth of food and medicine because of the UN-imposed trade sanctions on Iraq.

As usual, children are hit hardest by the sanctions. According to the report some 3,119 children under the age of five perished because of diarrhea, pneumonia and malnutrition related diseases in comparison with some 347 children died over the same period in 1989.

The Ministry's report attributed the rise in fatalities among children to acute shortages of food and medicine because of the trade sanctions and shortages of clean potable water and breakdown of a number of water-treatment plants in some parts of the country due to the bombing by U.S.-allies aircraft during the war and lack of spare parts for maintenance and repair work.

The Ministry's report noted that during April, 1989, a year before the imposition of the sanctions, the number of children struck by malnutrition related diseases was 71, whereas the number of children fatalities over the same period 1994 reached some 1,146 scoring an almost a 1,514 per cent increase.

Moreover, the report showed that diarrhea has claimed the lives of 122 children under the age of five over the month of April 1989 in comparison with some 940 deaths recorded during the same period in 1994, that is some 670.5 per cent increase.

Likewise, the number of children fatalities because of penumonia during April 1994 recorded a sharp increase of 570.8 per cent, the report pointed out, indicating that the number of deaths registered during April 1989 was 154 in comparison with some 1,033 deaths for the same period in 1994.

As for patients who suffer from chronic disease, the report noted that hypertension, diabetes and malignant neoplasms were the main causes of the death of 1,455 compared with some 454 deaths registered over the same period in 1989.

According to the Ministry's report, some 105 people died because of hypertension over the month of April, 1989 in comparison with 401 who died over the same period in 1994, recording an increase of 281.9 per cent over 1989's figure.

In the meantime, fatalities caused by diabetes have registered a sharp rise in April 1994, said the report, noting that some 272 people have died over the month of April 1994 compared with some 92 ones for the same period in 1989, scoring an increase of 195.65 per cent over 1989's figure.

According to the report, some 783 people who suffer from malignant neoplames have died during April 1994 compared with some 257 ones died over the same period in 1989.

The cause of the sharp rise in deaths among patients who suffer from cancer is blamed on the inadequate radio therapy received by the patients as a result of dearth of medicine caused by the embargo.

According to an earlier report by the nuclear and radioactive therapy hospital, the hospital's departments face sharp shortages of chemical and hormone medicines.

The absence of cobalt radioactive element needed for the treatment of malignant tumours has hit plans to care for people in bad need for radio therapy.

Chamber of Commerce Receives Trade Offers

JN0506113594 Baghdad INA in English 0820 GMT 5 Jun 94

[Text] Baghdad, June 5, INA—Baghdad's Chamber of Commerce has recently received commercial offers from a number of Arab and foreign companies for economic and commercial cooperation with Iraq.

In a statement to a local daily, chairman of the Baghdad's Chamber of Commerce Zuhayr 'Abd-al-Ghafur said the chamber has received an offer from a British firm specialised in food processing and another offer from an Australian firm specialized in exporting wheat, rice, sugar, milk and meat.

Moreover, the chamber has also received an offer from the Egyptian al-Zahra' Company for Construction Materials, Steel and Glass, said Mr. 'Abd-al-Ghafur, adding that seven other companies from Spain, Pakistan, India, Turkey, Jordan, Singapore and Sri Lanka have expressed their desire and readiness to resume and establish commercial ties with Iraqi traders.

Iraqi Ships Under Repair in 'Friendly' Ports

JN0506145894 Baghdad INA in English 1350 GMT 5 Jun 94

[Text] Baghdad, Jun 5, INA—The General Establishment of the Water Transportation began maintaining the Iraqi ships which had been docked in some brotherly and friendly ports in order to be used as soon as the blockade imposed on Iraq is lifted.

The director general of the establishment said that technical teams began their work on 13 cargo ships.

'Arafat Sends Rabin Letters on Aid, Jerusalem

Offers To Postpone Jerusalem Issue

NC1306094794 Paris AFP in English 0755 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Jerusalem, June 13 (AFP)—PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has agreed to drop the stormy debate over Jerusalem "for the time being", a senior foreign ministry official said Monday.

'Arafat had made the offer in a series of letters sent to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin last week after a major rumpus over the fate of the city both sides claim as capital.

"The PLO leader expressed his intention to smooth over differences and reduce tension," the official told AFP. "He is ready to withdraw the question of Jerusalem from the agenda for the time being."

Arafat also urged Israel to respect the written undertaken from Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres last October to allow Palestinian institutions to continue operating in East Jerusalem. [sentence as received]

Under the Declaration of Principles for autonomy, the Jerusalem issue would not be raised until the third year of Palestinian self-rule when negotiations on a permanent settlement are set to be begin.

Israel captured East Jerusalem from Jordan in the 1967 war and has declared the united city its eternal capital. The PLO demands to share Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, the HA'ARETZ newspaper reported that the government had decided not to allow 'Arafat to enter East Jerusalem during his visit to the autonomous Palestinian areas which is expected to take place sometime this month.

The army had voiced that 'Arafat's arrival in East Jerusalem would lead to clashes between Palestinians and the Israeli right-wing. Some extremists have called for 'Arafat to be murdered.

Rabin said last month that the PLO leader would not be allowed into Jerusalem for at least two years.

Rabin Confirms Contact With 'Arafat

TA1306124394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has confirmed that he has received three letters from Yasir 'Arafat over the last week regarding the autonomy agreements and the difficulties on the ground. Rabin said he answered the letters, but refused to divulge details. Prime Minister Rabin toid our correspondent Shulamit Schmerling that Teddy Kollek presented him with the idea of inviting King Husayn for prayers in Jerusalem, adding that Rabin answered that if Kollek wanted to send the king a personal invitation that was okay with him, but that he does not know if the king would come.

Our correspondent adds Rabin confirmed that Jacques Neriya, his political adviser, has decided to accept Hayim Ramon's offer and take a post in the Histadrut labor federation. Rabin expressed regret, but added that Neriya's resignation will not have an adverse effect on the efficient operation of the prime minister's bureau, just as the resignation of other advisers has had no such effect. Yitzhaq Rabin admitted his working method is military in nature, with channels of command and analysis directing activities, and one adviser more or less makes no difference.

Regarding another issue the prime minister said that the government will no longer subsidize inefficient industries, and henceforth those elements that wish to stand on their own two feet—whether a factory or a local authority—will have to become more efficient and finance themselves. The government will not aid the local authorities any longer and they will have to bear full responsibility for their budgets, according to the prime minister. The prime minister made these remarks during a meeting with northern mayors.

Rabin Reponds to 'Arafat's Aid Requests

TA1406083794 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 Jun 94 pp 1, 19

[Report by Shim'on Schiffer]

[Excerpts] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has asked Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to grant financial aid to the Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, which is in dire economic straits.

This request is included in one of 'Arafat's three letters to Rabin.

Officials in the prime minister's bureau have said that in consultations held on the formulation of a reply to 'Arafat's missives, Rabin ruled that Israel cannot help the PLO, either directly or indirectly.

A senior political source said yesterday that at a time when Israel lacks the necessary funds to help the Histadrut labor federation's sick fund, it cannot show generosity toward the PLO. At the same time, Rabin intends to formulate his reply in a positive spirit. [passage omitted]

In the letters 'Arafat sent to Rabin, the PLO chairman proposes, among other things, to begin discussions as soon as possible on the early empowerment of the autonomy institutions throughout the rest of the West Bank. Rabin intends to accede to this request, and contacts will soon be held between PLO officials and Israeli political figures in a bid to organize talks on this issue.

As reported yesterday in YEDI'OT AHARONOT, 'Arafat proposed that he and Rabin speak directly to one another and stressed the importance of establishing a "hot line" between them.

'Arafat also demanded that Rabin reaffirm Israel's commitment to preserve the status of Palestinian institutions in East Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

Officials Discuss Bilateral Talks With Jordan

TA1006181894 Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] [Announcer] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin promised Jordan's King Husayn that the Palestinians will not be given any authority in the holy sites in Jerusalem. Concerning the resumption of the bilateral negotiations next month, political sources here told our political correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen today that Israel is willing to return a significant part of the territories in dispute along the joint border to Jordan. Following are the details:

[Begin recording] [Rosen] Today, again, the prime minister chose not to address himself to his meeting with King Husayn.

[Rabin, in English] I do not believe that it is advisable to say anything about it.

[Rosen] Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin settles for a general comment and several hints:

[Beilin] Clearly, the relations between Israel and Jordan are not those between sworn enemies. I believe that we share many interests, and meetings on various levels have taken place.

[Rosen] Is it true that the deputy foreign minister also met King Husayn in the past?

[Beilin] You read too many books.

[Rosen] The Rabin-Husayn meeting was held two weeks ago, after 'Arafat's jihad speech and Rabin's nonsense speech. The prime minister wished to calm the king and assured him that he will not give 'Arafat a religious or political foothold in Jerusalem. From there, they reached agreements in principle on issues under negotiation, which led to the agreements in Washington. On the issue of borders, for example, Israel is willing to begin marking the border in accordance with geographic surveys that will be conducted on site. The demarcation will begin in the area of al-'Aqabah and Elat, where a joint road is to be built.

On the issue of security, the parties discussed cooperation against terrorism. Thus far, this was informal; from now on, it is written down as an element of normalization before a peace accord. Other normalization elements are to be expressed through the joint projects: A Riviera stretching around Jordanian, Israeli, and Egyptian shores; a joint road to connect the three countries; and an Israeli-Jordanian park in the Dead Sea region.

[Beilin] Acting from a position of caution and not to be the first to do things, typical of King Husayn, and at the same time with his wish not to be the last, he made the correct decision to move forward while not committing himself to a separate peace agreement.

[Rosen] Sources in Jerusalem say that Major General Uri Sagi, head of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] Intelligence Branch, was a senior partner in the discussions with Jordan. According to some sources, he even attended the recent meeting with King Husayn. Shim'on Peres, formerly an enthusiastic supporter of the Jordanian track, is now out of the picture. Recently, he expressed disappointment with King Husayn and his willingness to make progress toward normalization with Israel. [end recording]

Rabin Tours Jericho Area, Addresses Media

TA1406093894 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0809 GMT 14 Jun 94

[News conference by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin with Israeli correspondents during a tour of the Jericho area on 14 June—live]

[Text] [Qol Yisra'el's Shlomo Raz] Mr. Prime Minister, in the course of your tour this morning, did you find that the military deployment in the region, in relation to the self-government, corresponds to the plans made before autonomy was introduced here?

[Rabin] Even before the visit, I knew that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] deployment is designed to implement the commitments we made in the agreement and to create the tools for cooperation, to the extent possible, with the Palestinian elements in Jericho. My impression—and this is an impression based on a visit of several hours—is that the deployment and the tools for cooperation are working, but they are still in their very initial stages. Things become apparent as we go along. So far, the parties are showing goodwill in order to find solutions to some of the problems. Time will tell and will test the other side's ability to implement everything it undertook in the framework of the Gaza and Jericho First agreement.

[Raz] Are they keeping the agreement?

[Rabin] Yes, as far as joint patrols and coordination of activity is concerned. There are certainly things that still need improvement here and there, and I will not go into detail.

[IDF Radio's Golan Yokhpaz] Is it clear when PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will arrive in the region?

[Rabin] I do not know. According to the Cairo agreement, he is entitled to come here. Here, in Jericho, is where the seat of the Palestinian Authority—or part of it, with some other part in Gaza—, will be. Naturally, if he wishes to stay here, it is his prerogative.

[Israel Television New Channel 2's Rina Matzliah] Is an open and public meeting between yourself and Jordanian King Husayn to be expected any time soon?

[Rabin] I do not know of any such meeting in the future.

[Matzliah] Is there news regarding the contacts with Syria?

[Rabin] Currently, there are no contacts with Syria. Regrettably, the contacts with Syria—past, present, and future—are conducted only through the United States. I do not know for certain whether or when the U.S. secretary of state will arrive in Israel.

[Israel Television Channel 1's Alon Ben-David] Have you received any request from the PLO chairman for financial aid for the autonomy, and how will you respond to such a request?

[Rabin] Regarding financial aid to the Palestinian Authority, last week the donor countries met and decided to unfreeze over $40 million for the June-August period. This money was provided to allow the Authority to function in terms of paying salaries and the like. This comes in addition to the $5 million the United States gave them to pay the salaries of the Palestinians in uniform—the police, with all its formations and uniforms—for this month.

[YEDI'OT AHARONOT's Roni Shaqed] Mr. Prime Minister, the issue of the collaborators has not yet been settled. The Palestinians are still arresting collaborators and have announced that they will impose death sentences on those found guilty of murdering collaborators [as heard]. Is this not a violation of the agreement?

[Rabin] Regarding the second part of your question, it is their decision to make. Regarding the pursuit of collaborators, it does not correspond with the agreement. From this, we will draw conclusions pertaining to the issue of the Palestinian prisoners.

[Israel Television Channel 1 in Arabic's Yoni Ben-Menahem] Mr. Prime Minister, the Palestinians claim that you have not yet decided about the fate of the 200 prisoners who were released here last Friday. Will they be allowed to return to their homes in Judaea and Samaria? Have you made a decision on this? On the same note, how do you view the fact that many fugitives have found refuge in Jericho and are hiding in the autonomous district?

[Rabin] As for the first part, we agreed that some of the prisoners who have not yet completed serving their sentences will be moved here. It is their duty to make the effort to keep them here, in Jericho. We will do all we can, provided we have the necessary means, to prevent them from reaching their homes. It is true that several fugitives from Judaea and Samaria have apparently arrived in Jericho. We will deal with this, and we will see what the results are.

[Ben-Menahem] Does the agreement commit them to turn the fugitives over to us?

[Rabin] I do not remember the exact details.

[Unidentified correspondent] If the PLO leader comes, will he be allowed to pray in Jerusalem?

[Rabin] At the moment, I do not know when his arrival in Jericho, which has been agreed on, will take place. I will answer hypothetical questions on what would happen should someone ask to do this, that, or the other when they are no longer hypothetical.

[Matzliah] Sir, you have just met with the residents of the settlement of Na'ama, who have been demonstrating since last night at the border fence. Did you promise them that you will deal with their economic distress?

[Rabin] I met with representatives of the settlers here. Several problems were raised, the main part of which involves agricultural issues. Last winter was warm. This had an impact on farming not only in the Jordan Rift Valley but also in many parts of the State of Israel, such as the northern apple and peach orchards. The Agriculture Ministry is dealing with this issue on a nationwide scope. A more acute problem arose here, compared with the economic distress of the other settlers in the valley. Na'ama representatives claim their situation is more serious. They raised several demands, and I promised them an answer within two days.

Beilin Discusses Difficulties in Syrian Talks

TA1406105094 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0905 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Telephone interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin by Yisra'el Segal and political correspondent Shlomo Raz; place not given—live]

[Text] [Segal] Good day, Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin, or may I call you minister without portfolio?

[Beilin] Deputy foreign minister is accurate.

[Segal] Our correspondent Shlomo Raz has just reviewed the difficulties on the Syrian track, which seem to be the result of the blooming relations with Jordan.

[Beilin] Regrettably, this is not illogical. When we signed the Oslo agreement, the Syrians panicked a little and felt cast aside. As a result, they did not advance and even withdrew in the negotiations. I assume that the Jordanian affair does not please them very much. They would like to control the process and set the pace for the Palestinians and the Jordanians, just as they do in Lebanon. I am very glad that neither the Palestinians nor the Jordanians are willing to accept the Syrian pace, which naturally is much more cautious and rigid. I also hope this will not result in a real setback in the process with the Syrians, which is extremely important for us and, in fact, contains the makings of a comprehensive regional agreement.

[Raz] In view of this, was it not a mistake to progress on the secret tracks with Jordan because, as you said, Syria is the country that holds the key to a comprehensive agreement in the region?

[Beilin] Absolutely not. Our policy has always been to make progress with any neighbor we can: the Palestinians, the Jordanians, the Syrians, or the Lebanese. We seek to attain as much as possible with each of the parties—all the way up to signing a permanent peace accord—regardless of the others. We would be very glad if they all went along with us. We would be very glad if we could sign peace agreements with all the parties simultaneously. At the same time, we will allow no one—not even the Syrians—to have the right to veto moves by another party. As far as we are concerned, we will always take the risk of someone getting offended or staying behind if we face the opportunity of signing an agreement or making progress in that direction with some other party. This is why I am very happy about what happened with Jordan. I believe we made important progress. I hope the Syrians will also realize that comprehensive peace in the region is, first and foremost, to their advantage.

[Segal] We have just heard that Dennis Ross is now meeting with Itamar Rabinovich. Do you believe Warren Christopher will come to Israel?

[Beilin] I cannot tell; neither does my evaluation make much difference, when we will know the facts in a few hours. I can say one thing: Whether we like it or not—and I, for one, am not happy about it—there is no way to attain peace with Syria without the Americans. In order to make peace between us and the Syrians, they must come here and shuttle between Damascus and Jerusalem—not just once, twice, or three times. If they think it is worth their while to come here only if it is clear in advance that progress will be made, there will be no progress. On the other hand, if they come here and work between the capitals, progress will be made. This is why I very much hope that they will not make a hasty decision not to come to the region and that, when they come, they will devote the necessary time to this issue, because the situation is ripe for making peace between us and Syria. The broad common denominator exists. There are gaps, but although they are very wide, the bridge between them is in sight.

Officials Reportedly To Boycott Italian Neofascists

TA1306191994 Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Israel has decided to boycott the neofascist ministers in Italy, but will not announce this decision publicly. Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told his Italian counterpart Antonio Martino in Luxembourg this evening that Israel will not take any steps against the Italian Government in the wake of the neofascist ministers' appointment.

Israelis Banned From Jericho Until Further Notice

TA1006114494 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1100 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Since last night, Israelis have been banned from entering the Jericho autonomy region until a new announcement is issued. Our correspondent Ron Nesi'el reports that the reason is concern about attempts to attack Israelis after hundreds of Palestinian prisoners arrived in the town. Jericho itself is quiet. There is a large Palestinian police presence, especially in the area of the mosque, but there have been no reports of disturbances.

Yemeni Justice Minister Arrives on Visit

To Convey Message From Salih

JN1006185694 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Jun 94

[From the "60 Minutes" program]

[Text] [Announcer] 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim, Yemeni minister of justice and envoy of the Yemeni Government, arrived in Amman today from Damascus with a message for His Majesty King Husayn from His brother Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

The Yemeni envoy made a statement to our political affairs correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Ghanim] My current visit to the fraternal Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is to convey a message from Presidential Council Chairman 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to his brother His Majesty King Husayn dealing with the latest developments in the Republic of Yemen, with stopping this war which was ignited by the secessionist rebels, and with the full implementation of the UN Security Council resolution which safeguards Yemen's territorial integrity.

[Correspondent] Mr. Minister, is there Yemeni action on the Arab level?

[Ghanim] Yes, there is Yemeni action. My visit to Jordan is part of this action. It is the first leg of a tour of a number of fraternal Arab states in order to brief them on the true situation in Yemen.

[Correspondent] What is the true situation in Yemen regarding the cease-fire?

[Ghanim] The true situation in Yemen is the tragedy that has been caused by some of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] leaders through their rebellion and insurgence against the authority and public order. They did this to pave the way for announcing secession in order to take Yemen back to the pre-22 May [1990] era in violation of the Yemeni people's will, the constitution, and the April 1993 elections, which the whole world admitted were clean elections. Regarding the cease-fire, the Republic of Yemen has from the very beginning welcomed the UN Security Council resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire although we are convinced that this resolution is interference in our internal affairs. Despite this, out of our respect for international legitimacy, we welcomed this resolution and complied with it. As of yesterday, the legitimate leadership in the Republic of Yemen had announced a cease-fire three times. Regrettably, every time, the rebels violate this cease-fire, foment sedition, and renew fighting. There objective is to continue the battles to create an appropriate atmosphere to bring forces to disengage both Yemeni sides' troops, or international observers. We consider this a flagrant interference in the internal Yemeni affairs.

[Correspondent] In a statement, the UN envoy said that officials in Sanaa accept dialogue, and the other party might accept dialogue. Do you consider this a turning point in the situation in general?

[Ghanim] We have accepted dialogue from the beginning. We have never refused to extend our hand for the sake of dialogue and national reconciliation. After the declaration of secession, dialogue has become possible only with the YSP leaders who believe in unity and democracy. However, it is difficult to hold dialogue with the members who do not believe in unity, declared secession, and disavowed democracy.

[Correspondent] Thank you Mr. Minister. [end recording]

Meets With King Husayn

JN1106160894 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] This morning, in the presence of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, His Majesty King Husayn received 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim, the Yemeni minister of justice, who conveyed to his majesty an oral message from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Yemeni Presidential Council. The message deals with the latest developments in the Yemeni Republic, expressing appreciation for Jordan's pan-Arab stand and its concern for Yemen's unity and achievements.

His Majesty King Husayn stressed Jordan's support for fraternal Yemen's unity and democracy.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin- Husayn; Dr.'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, the prime minister; al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; and the Yemeni ambassador to Jordan.

Praises Amman's 'Principled Support'

JN1106184494 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1515 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Amman, 11 Jun (PETRA)—Yemeni Justice Minister 'Abdallah Ghanim has hailed Jordan's honorable role, its principled support for its brothers in Yemen, and its continuous and serious efforts to realize accord between Yemenis.

In a news conference held at Jordan Hotel this morning, Ghanim said he will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from His Excellency 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman in the Republic of Yemen.

He added that the message deals with the latest developments in Yemen and the full implementation of the Security Council resolution which preserves the territorial integrity of Yemen. The message also deals with Yemen's insistence on unity and democracy.

He said his short visit to Jordan is part of a tour of a number of Arab countries and is aimed to acquaint the Arab leaders with what is going on in Yemen.

Ghanim said a Yemeni delegation is currently visiting the Arab Maghreb states, and a Yemeni parliamentary delegation is visiting the U.S. Congress within the framework of political efforts by the Yemeni leadership to explain the facts to brothers and friends and refute the allegations that attempt to deceive Arab and international public opinions through portraying the conflict in Yemen as one between the north and the south, or as an attempt to impose unity by force, while the fact is that it is a conflict between the Yemeni people and the rebels and secessionists who carried weapons against the legitimate regime in order to secede.

Ghanim emphasized that unity was established four years ago and was not set up by force but through peaceful means. A referendum on the Constitution of the Republic of Yemen was conducted mid-1991 on the basis of which elections were held in 1993, so how can it be said after all this that we are imposing unity by force?

Ghanim said the Yemeni Government unequivocally rejects the presence of foreign forces in Yemen, and considers the rebellious side's demand of entrenching secession through the presence of international forces a blatant aggression against the sovereignty and independence of unified Yemen.

Ghanim said: We will abort any secessionist effort, and will work for unity under legitimacy. Our duty is to confront secession and rebellion on the basis of our constitutional responsibilities. He emphasized that Yemen is committed to Security Council Resolution 924, which calls for an immediate cease-fire if the other party is committed to it.

The minister added: We know that certain parties are supporting the mutineers' position. We are surprised by this support, and we urge these parties to stop because it will lead to more bloodshed. He pointed out that while the legitimate government forces are demanding the right to affiliation, the other side is demanding mutiny and secession.

He stressed his categorical rejection of this interference in Yemen's domestic affairs, and said that Yemen would find itself compelled to reply in an appropriate way if that interference in its national sovereignty continued.

During his news conference, he touched on threats from certain sides, and said that they constitute plots against Yemen and its legitimacy. The Yemeni official appealed to the Arab League, the UN Security Council, and all the fraternal and friendly countries to confront those who wish to peddle these plots.

He said: We are against any measure or interference that would prolong the war and lead to secession, stressing that Yemen's legitimacy is seeking dialogue within the framework of Yemen's unity. No party alone, he said, has the right to represent that legitimacy and no one has the right to disrupt unity or even argue outside the framework of Yemeni legitimacy.

He added: We will reject the division or fragmentation of Yemen by any party, pointing out that international legitimacy has not so far dealt with us in accordance with the UN principles or Charter but in accordance with temporary and political interests.

He also said: I attended the deliberations the Security Council's members held before Resolution No. 924 was issued, and I sensed the extent of encroachment exercised against world nations in violation of the principles advocated by the United Nations. Resolutions, he said, are being taken in light of bargains and flattery and apart from peoples' rights and states' right to noninterference in their domestic affairs. The council, he added, also uses double standards.

Ghanim then praised the role of the Jordanian king, government, and people in maintaining Yemen's unity and territorial integrity. He also praised Jordan's media, which have stressed their objective support for right and media which the Yemeni citizen views as friendly.

UN Envoy Brahimi Arrives in Amman En Route to Jeddah

JN1006155294 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] [Announcer] Lakhdar Brahimi, the UN secretary general's envoy to Yemen, has arrived in Amman on his way to Jeddah.

He was received by Talal Sat'an al-Hasan, minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Ali Abu-Luhum, the Yemeni ambassador in Amman; the UN representative in Jordan; and the Saudi charge d'affaires in Amman.

Lakhdar Brahimi spoke to our political affairs correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Are you carrying specific ideas from the UN secretary general to the officials of both sides [of Yemen]?

[Brahimi] The ideas are very simple. War and internecine fighting will not solve the problem, dialogue is the preferable means, and the international community is ready to help if possible. However, these brothers can solve their problem among themselves.

[Correspondent] What do you expect the alternatives will be?

[Brahimi] It is premature to discuss options. At present, the urgent objective is to have a serious cease-fire, to respect the cease-fire, and to resume the dialogue. The brothers in Sanaa say that they accept the principle of dialogue, even though they say that this dialogue should be based on principles. They have their own principles. We told them that is alright, and undoubtedly the brothers in the other party have their own ideas and principles. If the principles are accepted, then we will examine the bases, conditions, and circumstances under which this dialogue will take place. [end recording]

Reasons for Syria's 'Dissatisfaction' Viewed

JN1106140094 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Report by Randah Habib in Amman]

[Text] Syria has decided to postpone indefinitely a visit Syrian Prime Minister al-Zu'bi was scheduled to make today to Amman as an expression of its dissatisfaction with some Jordanian press articles.

Informed sources in Amman have said that at 2000 yesterday, Syrian officials summoned the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus to inform him of the decision to postpone the visit, without setting a new date.

Damascus has expressed dissatisfaction with a report published by a London-based newspaper that said Jordanian Prime Minister 'Abd-al- Salam al-Majali had told the Jordanian House of Representatives that his country's reply to the Syrian request to set up economic integration is that Amman believes in coordination provided that the relationship is not based on slogans and emotions alone.

Al-Majali quickly denied this report, accusing the newspaper of publishing incorrect and distorted reports. He also stressed the strategic ties between Jordan and Syria. In addition, the Jordanian News Agency, PETRA, has asserted that King Husayn and President Hafiz al-Asad have decided to hold bilateral meetings in order to promote cooperation and integration and take advanced steps on the road to unity and comprehensive integration. While in Amman, Al- Zu'bi was scheduled to discuss prospects for setting up economic integration between the two countries.

Syria has also expressed displeasure over a Jordanian newspaper editorial urging Amman to go ahead in its negotiations with Israel without waiting for Damascus, which, according to the writer, has made progress on its track with the Jewish state without consulting Amman.

The Syrian newspaper TISHRIN replied to that editorial with a strongly worded article asserting the commitment of Amman and Damascus to joint coordination.

At any rate, political quarters here have not ruled out the possibility that Damascus also wants to express its dismay at the Jordanian-Israeli agreements signed in Washington on border demarcation, water, and security, especially transferring the negotiations to al-'Aqabah and Elat in July.

Minister on U.S. Ties, Husayn-Clinton Meeting

JN1106171194 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Interview with Information Minister Jawad al-'Anani by Kassab Samawi in Amman on 11 June—recorded]

[Text] [Samawi] How will the progress made a few days ago on the Jordanian-Israeli track affect the upcoming meeting between his majesty the king and President Clinton?

[Al-'Anani] The climate now is far better that it was a year or two ago, especially compared with what it was like following the Gulf war. We think Jordanian-American relations will develop so as to clearly advance Jordanian interests. We would like the United States to become convinced that our political positions have sometimes been misrepresented and our demands distorted. We hope the Americans will also appreciate that Jordan—which sets store by its independence, unity, national pride, people, and, above all, its leadership—is qualified to engage such a great power as the United States in a dialogue that ensures the dignity of all sides. This is because we are aware that the United States is now the major player on the global scene and that it wields influence in many of the areas that also affect us. An improved political atmosphere between our two countries will impact Jordan positively.

King Husayn Receives New Year Cable From King Fahd

JN1306180194 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jun 94

["Text" of cable from from Saudi King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, to King Husayn; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] Your Majesty King Husayn Bin-Talal, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan: I have received your majesty's cable on the occasion of the advent of the Islamic New Year. I am pleased to exchange congratulations with you on this dear occasion, wishing that this occasion will return while your majesty enjoyed good health, while the fraternal Jordanian people enjoyed prosperity under your wise leadership, and while our Arab and Islamic nation realized their noble hopes and goals. Peace and God's mercy and blesses be upon you.

[Signed] Your brother Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques and king of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

'Source' on Altered Venue for Israeli Talks

PM1006154394 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 10 Jun 94 p 1

[Report by Salamah Ni'mat: "Changing Negotiations Venue Reflects Their Seriousness"]

[Text] Amman—An authoritative Jordanian source yesterday expected the Jordanian-Israeli negotiations, which will resume "in the region" next month, to witness "real and tangible progress with regard to a number of issues included on the negotiations agenda signed 14 September 1993.

The source told AL-HAYAH that the Israeli side "has expressed willingness to respond to Jordanian demands with regard to the occupied Jordanian territories, border demarcation, and water rights"—which are among the Jordanian side's basic demands.

The source said that holding the negotiations in the region "means that they will be held on Jordanian territory and Israeli territory" for the first time since the peace process was launched in Madrid about three years ago.

The source pointed out that "holding the negotiations on Israeli territory and Jordanian territory—and in the region in general—will cause the peace process to move closer to the peoples concerned with it and will influence public opinion."

The Jordanian official said that the decision to move the negotiations to the states concerned "reflects the seriousness which will characterize these negotiations." He noted that the Jordanian-Israeli talks held in Washington 6-7 June were "practical and effective in reactivating the Jordanian-Israeli track."

On Syrian reservations about moving the negotiations to the region, the Jordanian official said: "I do not believe that the negotiations' venue is going to change their results or is going to change the negotiators' positions."

He added: "We agree with Syria that normalization should follow an agreement, not vice versa. However, we must agree first on what is meant by normalization."

Participation at Tel Aviv Tourism Conference Denied

NC1206191894 Paris AFP in English 1741 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Amman, June 12 (AFP)—Jordan's tourism association on Sunday denied an Israeli newspaper report that five Jordanians were to attend a conference in Tel Aviv.

"No member of the association, which represents the whole of the private sector, is going to take part" in the tourism conference opening on Monday, its director Yusuf Muwaswas told AFP.

Tourism Minister Muhammad 'Adwan also denied the report, saying his ministry had not been informed of any such participation.

The Israeli daily HA'ARETZ reported earlier that five Jordanians were to attend the conference for travel agents.

Israel and Jordan resumed peace negotiations last week and signed agendas for treaty talks covering water, energy, environment, security and territorial issues.

Judge: Suspect Never Mentioned Lockerbie

NC1306184494 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1826 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Judge Sa'id Mirza told AFP that Yusuf Sha'ban has admitted killing Jordanian diplomat Na'ib 'Imran al-Ma'ayitah and admitted to seven other assassination attempts in Lebanon. Judge Mirza said, however, that Sha'ban never mentioned Lockerbie during the five interrogation sessions, each of which lasted 10 hours.

Buwayz Discusses Peace Talks, Lockerbie

NC1306163494 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz today explained Lebanon's official stance on the peace talks following press reports of U.S. intervention in this matter. Minister Buwayz has categorically denied that the United States or any other party has proposed to Lebanon that it hold separate or collective talks with Israel. He said so far we have not received any new U.S. offer to resume the talks. He stressed that U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Mark Hambley did not discuss this subject during his meetings with Lebanese officials. Nor did the U.S. Ambassdor hint, insinuate, or deliver a message on this subject.

Regarding the Palestinian Yusuf Sha'ban, who is accused of assassinating [Jordanian diplomat] Na'ib al-Ma'aytah, and Sha'ban's new confession that he was behind the bombing of the Pan American plane over Lockerbie, Minister Buwayz will leave it to the court to take measures regarding this subject. He noted that judicial proceedings will begin if this claim is true.

Hizballah Pledges Retaliation for Air Raid

PM1306150994 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 13 Jun 94 p2

[Unattributed report: "Nasrallah: Israeli Ultimatums Will Not Prevent Us From Retaliating at a Time of Our Own Choosing"]

[Text] Beirut, AL-HAYAH—Hizballah's Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah yesterday declared that the "Israeli ultimatums and the U.S. support for them will not prevent us from carrying out the promised retaliation" at a time to be determined by the resistance.

Nasrallah's declaration was made at a commemoration ceremony for the victims of the Israeli raid on a Hizballah training center in 'Ayn Kawkab, east of Ba'labakk, held in Beirut's southern suburb and attended by Mohammad Kazem Khonsari, director of the Iranian Foreign Ministry's Middle East and North Africa Department scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah; Hizballah deputies and officials; Iranian Ambassador Hamayon 'Alizadeh; Fathi al-Shaqaqi, secretary general of the "Islamic Jihad in Palestine" [IJP]; Milad al-Qarih, representing Defense Minister Muhsin Dallul; Staff Brigadier General Husayn Nasr al-Din, representing Army Commander Emile Lahhud; and other influential Palestinian and Lebanese figures.

Khonsari expressed "condolences and congratulations from the Iranian people and government to the Lebanese people and government." He criticized the U.S. policy "for covering up the Zionist enemy's violation of Lebanon's sovereignty." He commended "the cohesion of the Lebanese internal situation manifested in the profound official and popular support for the resistance and its right to resist the occupation." He added: "We are fully convinced that Israel and its masters do not want peace with the peoples and states of this region; they want full capitulation and submission to Zionist hegemony, to deny our Arab and Islamic peoples their will, identity, and history."

Dr. al-Shaqaqi criticized the "policy of capitulation" and negotiation with Israel "while the enemy continues to break all international traditions and laws, with a direct American cover-up, by committing all kinds of terrorism against the Arab nation." He criticized Yasir 'Arafat's policy and pledged to "sustain the resistance in Lebanon and Palestine."

The ceremony was concluded with a speech by Nasrallah, who listed the aims of the Israeli raid on Ba'labakk, the most important being "to strike at the resistance, create a situation of popular frustration and confusion in its relations with its people and kinfolk, isolate it, create an air of incitement and sedition between the resistance and the state, try to break the fateful bond between Lebanon and Syria, push official Lebanon into peripheral negotiations that would lead to a separate peace with Israel, and send a message to Syria in continuation of the American and Israeli pressures on its leadership to make concessions, abandon rights, and accept Israel's peace terms."

He pointed out, however, that "these aims have failed." He emphasized that "continuation of the resistance is a right," and he praised the solidarity between the resistance and the people.

He said that "all kinds of sedition are forbidden and prohibited and would be a great service to the enemy, who is lying in wait for all of us. The domestic peace is a red line and a great achievement which must be preserved." He denied that "we are about to call for any form of intrinsic security." He added: "We are not a security alternative to anyone." He expressed a wish for "security achievement" at the level of "exposing the Israeli groups within." He urged "confrontation of the Israeli infiltration of the Lebanese arena through agents and spies." He voiced appreciation for the "official support for the resistance," which, he said, should be "deepened and rooted." He also called for withdrawal from the negotiations.

He emphasized that Lebanese-Syrian relations "are deep-rooted and strategic. They are one of the main foundations of Lebanon's strength." He praised Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's firmness and his ability to tackle this phase skillfully and to face pressures and tribulations. He also noted Iran's support for Syria.

After criticizing the U.S. policy, he said: "Dear friends, our people and kinfolk, and also the Americans carrying the threatening messages and the Israelis who have not, since the raid, stopped issuing ultimatums: These ultimatums and threats will not prevent us from carrying out the promised retaliation in the course of our continuing resistance and jihad and at a time of our own choosing, and let Israel do what it likes. What does it want to do? Destroy our homes, kill us, scorch our land, steal our water, and occupy our country? It is doing that every day, and we will not stop in the face of that threat." He concluded: "It wanted it an open war, but when has it not been open?" He reaffirmed "continuation of the jihad."

SLA, Israeli Officers on Hizballah, Peace

NC1406085194 Kafr Killa Voice of the South in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] The secondary school built by the Civilian Affairs Administration in the border zone was inaugurated in Rumaysh yesterday. The ceremony was attended by General Gabi Ashkenazi, Israeli commander of the liaison unit; Colonel Shlomo Hasun, Israeli head of the Civilian Affairs Administration; and Lieutenant Colonel 'Aql Hashimi, commander of the western brigade, who represented South Lebanese Army Commander [SLA] Staff Major General Antoine Lahd.

In a speech he delivered on the occasion, Lt. Col. Hashim said that the difficult road that we have taken is nearing its end, and we have great hope that we will reach a safe haven. The features of the road are becoming clear after the successive signing of agreements with the Palestinians and the Jordanians, and with the Syrians in the future.

Hashim extended thanks on behalf of Rumaysh residents to Israel and the Israeli army for their assistance to the border strip residents.

Liaison Unit Commander Gen. Ashkenazi affirmed that Israel is extending its hand for peace. He said: We will cooperate with whoever wants peace and will retaliate against whoever wants war and terrorism. Our arm is long, and we will choose the suitable time and place to strike.

Ashkenazi said he is confident that the day will come when peace will be established between Lebanon and Israel and the borders between the two countries will come down. Meanwhile, he said, we will continue to fulfill the tasks we have. We believe that if there is no peace between nations, there will be no peace between states, and if there is no mutual respect between nations, there will be no good relations between states.

Answering correspondents' questions, Ashkenazi said that Hizballah is trying to carry out terrorist operations against the border area. It has intentions to do so. We are ready for such confrontation. We have taken all the possibilities into consideration and made all the necessary preparations. We hope that Hizballah will understand that terrorism is not the right way, and if it does not understand, we will teach it the necessary lesson. We do not hide in villages and among civilians as Hizballah does. If Hizballah is seeking a confrontation, let it come to the battlefield. Ashkenazi stated that he has instructed the troops not to respond to the sources of fire if they come from inside villages and fields under cultivation so that the retaliation will not burn the crops that the farmers worked hard to cultivate.

Answering a question by our correspondent regarding the relative calm that has recently prevailed in the area, and whether it is the result of Hizballah's fear of Israel's retaliation or the talks that U.S. officials held in Lebanon and Syria, Ashkenazi said it is due to all these reasons. Hizballah is afraid of Israeli retaliation. It has recently received a very painful blow, and needs a long time to recover.

U.S. Said To Convey Israeli Ultimatum

PM1306153694 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 11 Jun 94 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed report: "Washington Conveyed Israeli Ultimatum to Lebanon"]

[Text] Beirut, AL-HAYAH—Official Lebanese sources have told AL-HAYAH that, some days ago, the United States conveyed to Lebanon an Israeli ultimatum that Israel would hit Lebanon hard if Hizballah retaliated to its bombing of Hizballah's bases and centers with suicide operations abroad or across the Lebanese borders.

The sources said that U.S. Ambassador in Beirut Mark Hambley conveyed that ultimatum to the senior Lebanese officials he met with in the past few days, pointing out that Israel's ultimatum was in reply to Hizballah leaders' declarations that they would retaliate to the Israeli raid on 'Ayn Kawkab camp near Ba'labakk last week with suicide operations inside [Israel] and abroad. The raid left 35-40 Hizballah members dead, of whom 27 have been named, and 70 others injured.

The ultimatum, as conveyed by the American side, was that no Hizballah position in Lebanon would be safe, and it held the Lebanese Government responsible.

The sources told AL-HAYAH that the ultimatum was repeated by Uri Lubrani, head of the Israeli delegation to the negotiations with Lebanon, in statements he made the day before yesterday threatening a relentless war if Lebanon continued to embrace Hizballah. Senior Lebanese officials said they feared a major Israeli operation in the coming days as a consequence of that ultimatum and Lubrani's warnings. They have been concerned, particularly as the Western states and the United States clearly opposed their desire to have the Security Council issue a statement condemning Israel's violation of Lebanese sovereignty when it launched these raids last week.

U.S. Said To Push for Bilateral Peace Talks

PM1406141694 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 12 Jun 94 pp 1, 4

[Report by Walid Shuqayr: "Washington Presses for Lebanon's Return to the Negotiations Without Waiting for Syria"]

[Text] Beirut—Lebanese official sources have confirmed to AL-HAYAH that the U.S. Administration has asked Lebanon to resume bilateral negotiations with Israel without waiting for Syria, to ensure that progress is made in the negotiations on the Lebanese track.

The Lebanese official sources told AL-HAYAH that the U.S. request was in fact a hint and that the Lebanese officials just listened to the U.S. requests and hints and only said that they were waiting for matters to become clearer on the other tracks and for the situation to calm down on the military front and for an end to the Israeli escalations.

Official sources also told AL-HAYAH that the U.S. reaction to that Lebanese position was advice "not to wait" because the waiting policy is futile. The sources added that the U.S. side did not conceal its view that the Lebanese policy of waiting for progress on the Syrian track is "provoking the Israelis." The official sources pointed out that the Americans believe that matters are proceeding acceptably on the Syrian and Jordanian tracks and are making some progress and that, therefore, it would be natural to resume negotiations on the Lebanese track. The Lebanese officials, however, prefer to make sure that all is well on the Syrian track before taking any stand on the resumption of negotiations on the Lebanese track. The Lebanese official sources said that the U.S. side has for some time been asking Lebanon to revive the negotiation sessions in Washington but Lebanon's policy has been one of waiting until progress is made before taking any steps in that respect.

The official sources also told AL-HAYAH that the U.S. request, which was passed on along with the Israeli ultimatum that "a relentless war" would be waged on Lebanon and all Hizballah positions in Lebanon if the latter retaliated to the raid on al-Biqa' with suicide operations inside [Israel] and abroad, was what prompted President Ilyas al-Hirawi to say in a speech last Thursday that "we will not single anyone out and will not allow anyone to single us out," and which prompted Chamber of Deputies Speaker Nabih Birri to say yesterday that Syria was the target of the aggression on al-Biqa', and also prompted Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri to declare the rejection of separate peace.

Official sources say that there is increasing pressure on Syria in connection with the negotiations, the aim being to isolate it in order to soften its position by luring Jordan into the bilateral negotiations, but that would in practice be very difficult to do with Lebanon.

Writer Sees U.S. at Fault in Yemen, Gulf

NC1006201194 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 2 Jun 94 p 1

[Article by chief editor Talal Salman: "The Nation Is Under International Oil Guardianship."]

[Text] International guardianship over the Arabs from the Atlantic to the Gulf has come full circle with Yemen.

The "war of the brothers", indeed the "war against ourselves" was noticeably delayed until oil was discovered in commercial quantities in the "two parts of that country." This delay shows the design: For the United States to get its hands on Arab oil wherever it is, always in the name of international legality, and to implement this international legality's resolutions to prevent the Arabs from burning themselves with their own oil, just like children playing with matches.

What is important is that, as of today, a "Security Council" is the arbiter between one Yemen and another, deciding for each miserable "part" what is good for it, what is bad, and what is forbidden. The primary taboo is for Yemen to unite as a sound, capable entity able to compensate for its historical misery by exploiting its natural resources.

In the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf where "sovereignty" belongs to the kingdom of black gold and white silence, everyone is under the direct protection of several junior officers of the U.S. Armed Forces. No ruler tenders an offer without their permission or buys a motorcycle without their approval. Indeed, those officers decide "what is needed", who to buy from, the price, and the commission. These officers alone have the right to "instruct" the sultans when and how much "democracy" to grant to their citizens. Democracy there cannot be attained except with the use of U.S. crutches, one of which would preferably be a "Wahhabite" [form of Islam prevalent in Saudi Arabia] crutch and the other a "revanchist" crutch with a mentality harking back to such a distant past that it sees in Wahhabism an atheistic, destructive ideology.

Although everyone in that region was committed to the logic of "market economy", even prior to the official declaration of U.S. protection, they were not required to adhere to the other side of that baleful coin, namely human rights and political pluralism.

While Kuwait, in U.S. eyes, is "more than a protectorate but less than a negro [Zinji] quarter," this does not spare it the necessity of surrounding itself with a legendary barricade extending through the desert along the entire length of its "border" with Iraq, filled with such luxuries as refrigeration, cool water, and rugby and baseball fields. This will guarantee that it will be a golden burial ground for the remaining oil revenues, the so-called "fund for future generations," which the "shaykhs" used to save for a rainy day.

Meanwhile, an irrevocable international sentence has been passed against Iraq, with no room for appeal. The sentence is to keep the tyrant safe and sound, but to execute the people, with their various Arab, Kurdish, Turkoman, Assyrian, Chaldean, Babylonian, Muslim, Christian, Sabian, and Yazidi sects and the remnants of the fire-worshipping Magi.

A more serious matter is the starving of the Iraqis while their huge oil reserves go to waste. Their tall refineries stand still and their thousand-kilometer pipelines stretch to the gulfs and seas, empty like their treasury, their wallets, and home refrigerators.

If we assume that the fate of the eastern triangle—Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon—hinges on what Israel, the "local" strategic ally, decides is best for U.S. interests in this region, then the option offered to the countries forming this triangle is as follows: Either an Egypt-like Camp David arrangement with a U.S.- dominated multinational observer force or a Gaza/Jericho-like agreement with local police serving under Israeli command.

The non-oil-producing countries—Sudan, Tunisia, Morocco, and Mauritania—can suffer a slow death and crawl on their bellies, asking, today or tomorrow, for bits of the U.S. food surplus.

Or they can die in mass extermination orgies, as in Somalia.

Libya, however, and later on Algeria, must pay a retroactive price for their revolutionary pretensions. Thus, sanctions are imposed on the Libyan people, who know hardly anything about the world, politics, or the taste of living. A ring of fire surrounds Libya, impenetrable to even a single plane, even medical or fire-fighting emergency flights to the oil fields.

How dare someone to whom fate has given fabulous wealth, more than they can personally use, speak of revolution, unity, the liberation of Palestine, and jihad against Israel?

Therefore, it is necessary to condemn the entire Libyan nation and fight it as if it were a scourge or contagious disease. It must repent publicly, give up its wealth, and kill with its own hand everything that remotely refers to revolution, today, tomorrow, or the day after tomorrow. They might even require the Libyan nation to dig up the grave of its heroic martyr 'Umar al-Mukhtar, who was hanged by the Italian colonialists, put his remains on trial, and hang him (again) on the charge of prior incitement against the new world order and the U.S. monopoly of Arab oil.

As for Algeria, let it sink gradually into an open-ended civil war that will sap the state's and the people's energies so that the oil and natural gas can remain in the hands of the U.S. master, who will "hasten" alone to save the one-million-martyr country from drowning in a multi-billion-dollar debt, the interest on which would eat up the world.

All Arabs are minors, wards of international guardianship.

In accordance with international legality's resolutions, every "Arab" has a compulsory guardian (generally American and only occasionally European) who makes decisions for him.

The oil belongs to those who discovered and extracted it, laid its pipelines, built its refineries, and shipped it to the "developed society," which deserves to enjoy its revenues since it is qualified to utilize it as a source of energy that has a decisive influence on the world's destiny and humanity's fate.

After Israel's and the oil's future is guaranteed, no worries will remain except this exceptional population increase in the backward Arab societies. There can be no solution to this except for the Arabs to exterminate each other.

Hence, the map of the Arab homeland resembles a lake of futilely shed blood, all of it true Arab blood.

Only when it comes to killing is there no guardianship of the Arabs. In this they are free, to the point of total chaos.

The more the Arabs shed their own cheap blood, the greater the share for the U.S. West (including Israel) of their precious oil.

Thank God that Lebanon is not an oil country. Otherwise its civil war would have continued until the last drop of its stalwart sons' blood was shed.

Al-Hirawi Receives Yemeni Justice Minister

NC1306175094 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi received Yemeni Justice Minister 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim at the B'abda Palace this evening. Yemeni Ambassador to Lebanon Ahmad Muhammad al-Mutawakkil also attended. After the meeting, the Yemeni minister said that he delivered a verbal message to President al-Hirawi from Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih regarding the latest developments of the war in Yemen. He said the war was ignited by the separatists to break up Yemen and to move the country backward. He added: I was pleased by his excellency the president's response and eagerness for Yemen's stability, security, and continued unity. The Yemeni minister arrived in Beirut earlier today.

'Lebanese National Congress' Launched in Paris

JN1306200194 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] The Lebanese National Congress concluded its meetings in Paris today. General Michel 'Awn had called for this conference, which was attended by Dory Sham'un, leader of the National Liberal Party and many Lebanese expatriates and opposition figures, in addition to French figures from the Senate and National Assembly. Our colleague Salim Badawi will tell us about the final session, decisions, and recommendations:

[Begin Badawi recording] [First,] declaring the foundation of the Lebanese National Congress as a comprehensive united institution that embraces the national current whose objective is to achieve Lebanon's freedom, independence, and full sovereignty over all its territories within its internationally-recognized historical border.

Second, the constituent body of the congress, together with those in charge of it, will form a constituent assembly to draft its bylaw and to appoint its legislative and executive staff.

Third, the congress announces the formation of the board of trustees under the chairmanship of the secretary general who will be in charge of running, organizing, and activating the general secretariat.

Fourth, the congress announces the formation of the national assembly, which will be considered the legislative body of the congress.

On the other hand, the Lebanese National Congress defined its militant priorities through the following objectives:

[First,] liberation through organizing ties of cohesion and cooperation among the Lebanese to activate their role toward expanding the field of militant action on the Lebanese and international levels.

Second, mobilizing the potentials of the Lebanese throughout the world to influence the decisionmakers, particularly in the five permanent members of the Security Council.

Third, the congress will establish ties with international and regional organizations—East and West—particularly the ones that have influence on the Lebanese future.

Fourth, the congress charged the board of trustees with following up dialogue and constitutional studies with prominent Lebanese and international experts to lay out and present alternative options to the sectarian system so that this will prepare for a secular political system that transfers power from the sects to the government.

Regarding the peace process, the congress believes that the Israeli-Arab peace process, which began in Madrid in the wake of the Gulf war, constitutes the most important political framework to the Lebanese future. The statement adds: It would be a big danger to Lebanon's sovereignty and independence if Lebanon participated in the talks through a government whose decisionmaking is captive and seized and which lacks legitimacy and popular authorization.

The final statement adds: Lebanon insists that its war has not ended, its peace will not be genuine, and its people will never enjoy sovereignty, freedom, and independence so long as the non-Lebanese forces have not withdrawn from all the Lebanese territory, in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 425 and 520. Lebanon is eager to have excellent relations with all its neighbors, not distinguished with any party. The congress also called for achieving a solid and comprehensive Lebanese reconciliation among the Lebanese leaders who agree on negotiations to liberate Lebanon within the framework of a transitional government that represents all parties that accept the principle of peace and work toward this objective. [end recording]

Damascus Expects 'Something New' From Christopher

PM1406104394 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Jun 94 p 5

[Report by Salwa al-Ustuwani: "Damascus Urges Christopher To Bring Something New If He Wants Successful Visit"]

[Excerpt] Damascus, Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—[passage omitted] On the eve of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's arrival in the region a Syrian official has told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that, if Christopher wants his latest visit to succeed, he must bring something new as well as clear answers to the fundamental questions Damascus raised during his recent visit, because both the fate and the resumption of the peace process will be determined by these answers.

The Syrian official added that Damascus does not believe that Christopher is coming to the region empty-handed. Or that he is going to expose himself to the difficulty and hardship of travel without bringing something new with him. Nor do we believe that the United States would risk its credibility and reputation and evade its pivotal role in the peace process.

The Syrian official pointed out that Syria is waiting to see what Christopher is going to bring with him. And that it stresses once again that he is going to receive every response inasmuch as Syria truthfully and sincerely aspires to peace—a peace called the peace of the brave based on justice and comprehensiveness. The official said: If Israel really is seeking to establish this peace, it—before anyone else—knows the roads leading to it, otherwise this peace is going to remain a dream that cannot be realized, thereby pushing the region toward numerous probabilities.

The Syrian official accused Israel of seeking to achieve separate deals on all the Arab axes. And that it has prepared for them secretly under the peace slogan in order to impose its conditions on the Arabs individually.

The official said: We do not believe that Washington is going to let Israel diminish its role. Because the current U.S. role does not allow it to implement the will of one party to the exclusion of another, especially when that party is in breach of international law. And Israel's interests and relations with the Arabs cannot allow it to be able to impose its conditions and what it terms its peace and security in the region. And the United States is fully aware that separate deals will not lead to peace. In fact, that attitude is going to make peace prospects remote.

Yemeni Justice Minister Makes Statement, Departs

JN1306153194 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Yemen's Minister of Justice 'Abdallah Ghanim left Damascus this morning. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Syria's Justice Minister Dr. 'Abdallah Tulbah and the two deputies of the president of the Cassation Court.

In a predeparture statement to SANA, Ghanim noted that he delivered a message from Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council in the Republic of Yemen, to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad about current developments in Yemen. President al-Asad showed full understanding of Yemeni developments and expressed his support for the preservation of its unity, security, and stability.

Al-Asad Receives Lebanese President al-Hirawi

JN1406103694 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1015 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi at 1130 today. Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam attended the meeting, which was followed by a closed one between the two presidents.

President al-Asad Issues General Budget Law

JN1206163694 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1515 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has issued Law No. 5 dated 12 June 1994, which represents the state's general budget for 1994.

Finance Minister Muhammad Khalid al-Mahayini told a Syrian Arab News Agency correspondent that the state budget for 1994 amounts to 144.162 billion Syrian pounds. Of this amount, 76.198 billion pounds will be earmarked for current general expenditure, and 67.964 billion pounds for investment projects; that is, 47.14 percent of the entire state budget. This high ration reflects the importance of development projects in this budget, in addition to the requirements of general expenditure for national security and general services for the people.

The minister added that most of the state's general budget is based on domestic resources, thus affirming the principle of self-reliance, in addition to rationalizing the current public expenditure, especially administrative expenditures. The budget also included the necessary allocations to meet President's Hafiz al-Asad generous gift to the working class, represented by increasing salaries and remunerations for the state employees, increasing the pensions, increasing the heating allowance, and changes in prices as of 1 May 1994.

The minister said that the Finance Ministry issued orders to implement the 1994 state budget law and to disburse the amounts allocated this year for all public departments of an administrative nature in the state. It also issued documents related to approval of estimated allocations for the economic public sector for 1994.

Highlights of 1994 Draft State Budget

JN1006135994 Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 28 May 94 p 3

[Article by correspondent Ayman Mari']

[Excerpts] In the first meeting of its 13th ordinary session, the People's Assembly listened to the statement of Finance Minister Dr. Khalid al-Mahayini on the draft state budget for fiscal year 1994.

The statement notes that the general state budget is one of the most important tools of financial planning in view of its role in creating new revenues and productive capabilities and promoting the process of economic and social development.

The importance of the general state budget also lies in the formation of the Gross Domestic Product [GDP] through public spending, especially since most government expenditure on investment and public consumption takes place through the state budget. [passage omitted]

Draft Budget Appropriations

The draft state budget's appropriations for 1994 reached 133.528 billion Syrian pounds, of which the sum of 66.181 billion pounds is for current expenditure and 67.644 billion Syrian pounds is for investment expenditure.

The total appropriations in the 1994 budget are 8.78 percent more than the total appropriations in the 1993 budget.

Initial estimates show that as a result of the increase in the wages, annuities, and allowances for civil servants, the appropriations in the 1994 draft budget of 1994 are expected to rise to 142 billion pounds. This is in addition to the impact of these increases in the budgets of the economic public sector, administrative units, and awqaf departments.

The appropriations for investment operations in 1994 include an appropriation to back the capital of certain public sector firms by the sum of 350 million pounds.

We must point out that the job opportunities to be created by the public expenditure appropriations in the 1994 draft budget are estimated at 70,376 jobs distributed as follows: 25,368 job opportunities in the administrative sector and 30,008 job opportunities in the economic sector. This is in addition to approximately 15,000 job opportunities resulting from implementing investment projects.

Public Expenditure Appropriations:

A. The appropriations of the 1994 draft budget have been distributed as follows:

Wages, Remunerations and Allowances

The appropriations that have been allocated for wages, remunerations, and allowances in the 1994 draft budget have reached 19.282 billion pounds compared to 17.406 billion pounds in 1993; in other words, an increase of 1.876 billion pounds or an increase of 10.77 percent. The wages, remunerations, and allowances constitute 29.13 percent of the total appropriations for current expenditure in the 1994 draft budget.

Administrative Expenditures

The appropriations of administrative expenditures in the 1994 draft budget reached 7.742 billion pounds compared to 6.387 billion pounds in the 1993 budget; in other words, an increase of 1.355 billion pounds or 21.21 percent. Administrative expenditures in the 1994 draft budget constitute 11.7 percent of the budget.

Transferable Expenditures

The appropriations for transferable expenditures have reached 3.079 billion pounds compared to 2.627 billion pounds in 1993; in other words, an increase of 452 million pounds or 17.2 percent.

Debts and Obligations

The appropriations under this column in the 1994 draft budget are 5.465 billion pounds compared to 5.644 billion pounds; in other words a reduction of 179 million pounds. The appropriations under this column constitute 8.26 percent of the total current expenditure appropriations in the 1994 draft budget.

Investment Projects

B. Appropriations for investment projects in 1994.

The 1994 investment plan has been drawn up on the basis of several main considerations which can be summed up as follows:

—Giving priority in investments in the 1994 budget to electricity projects (generators, transformers, transport, and distribution).

—Concentrating on replacement and renovation projects in existing intermediary industries in addition to new projects which are ready to be contracted in this field.

—Concentrating on irrigation and agrarian reform projects.

—Continuing the emphasis on giving priority to agricultural projects, especially in research and productivity.

—Concentrating on backing existing projects with the view to completing and achieving tangible material progress in their implementation, especially the projects on health, sewage, drinking water, all stages of education, and automation in the banking and insurance fields.

In light of the above, the appropriations for investment projects in the 1994 draft budget have been fixed at a total sum of 67.3 billion pounds distributed as follows:

—42.8 billion pounds or 63.6 percent of the total appropriations will come from internal revenues.

—24.5 billion pounds or 36.4 percent of the total appropriations will come from foreign revenues.

This is in addition to the investment expenditure of the private and mixed sectors, the investment expenditure on services contracts of companies which carry out exploration and prospecting work and investment in oil and gas projects where the total actual expenditure on these companies reached $4.316293 billion until 31 December 1993. The planned investment expenditure for 1994 is $478.793 million [dollar figures as published]

General Revenues-Internal and External

The internal revenues in the 1994 draft budget are estimated at 97.926 billion pounds compared to 80.124 billion pounds in the 1993 state budget; in other words, an increase of 17.802 billion pounds or 22.22 percent.

These estimates are expected to be increased by approximately 7.1 billion pounds to reflect the recent wage increases from 1 May to 31 December 1994.

As for foreign revenues they were estimated at 24.53 billion pounds compared to 31.868 billion pounds in the 1993 budget.

The following is a summary of the general revenues in the draft budget:

Current Revenues

The internal current revenue estimates are 77.611 billion pounds compared to 61.344 billion pounds in the 1993 state budget plus 9 billion pounds that are the aid funds estimates for 1993.

The estimates of taxes and duties in the 1994 state budget are 47.413 billion pounds compared to 36.309 billion pounds in 1993; in other words an increase of 11.104 billion pounds or an average increase of 30.58 percent.

Investment Revenues

The internal investment revenue estimates in the 1994 draft budget are 20.315 billion pounds compared to 18.780 billion pounds in the 1993 budget.

Foreign investment revenue estimates (loans and credit facilities) in the 1994 draft budget are 24.53 billion pounds compared to 22.868 billion pounds in the 1993 budget. [passage omitted]

Businessmen Sign Contracts With British Delegation

JN1206091494 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 17 May 94 p 2

[Article by 'Imad al-Karaki: "Conclusion of Several Contracts and Joint Ventures with British Businessmen"]

[Excerpts] An economic delegation from the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry visited Syria last week to increase trade between the two countries and to get acquainted with the investment climate following the issuance of Investment Law No. 10 of 1991. The delegation met with businessmen in Damascus and Aleppo and held meetings with the Syrian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and several government officials. The meetings with the businessmen resulted in the signing of several contracts with owners of industrial firms. The delegation examined economic feasibility studies on several projects, foremost the "plastic insulation" project, at the Damascus Chamber of Commerce. It was decided that the British will provide expertise while Syria will provide local raw materials and manpower for this project.

The other important point raised was that the British side will study Investment Law No. 10, since not many British businessmen and investors are fully aware of it. The Aleppo Chamber of Commerce requested the British delegation to dispatch a legal mission from Britain to read this law and to explain it to British businessmen at the chamber's expense. The British delegation proposed dispatching a woman lawyer who is also a board member in the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry to compile a study on the law. [passage omitted]

The British delegation expressed its satisfaction with the Syrian laws regulating foreign trade and also with the Investment Law. Several contracts were signed between Syrian and British businessmen. The members of the delegation affirmed that they will return to Syria to conclude other projects which they are studying and that businessmen outside the London Chamber of Commerce and industry might also visit Syria. [passage omitted]

Officials Address Ba'th Party Meeting

JN1006195194 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 12 May 94 pp 1, 11

[Text] Damascus (SANA)—The comrades party branch secretaries and governors concluded their meetings last night.

Comrade Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary of the Ba'th Party, made a speech at the conclusion of these meetings in which he urged the participants to hold immediate meetings with the party and popular bases in order to explain the dimensions and importance of what took place at the meetings; in order to deepen the relationship between the party leaderships and the party, popular, and professional bases by constantly following up on the implementation of action plans; and in order to broaden the bases of the party, the popular organizations, and professional unions, to tighten their organizational structures, and to consolidate national unity behind the historic leadership of the comrade party secretary general and leader struggler Hafiz al-Asad, who feels the people's pulse and gives their affairs and livelihood all the care and attention they deserve as illustrated by the recent increase in wages, remunerations, and heating and cost of living allowances to government employees and retirees.

Qaddah affirmed the need to develop work methods and formulas and to listen to the masses so as to strengthen ties with them and to pool their resources for the construction process led by the Ba'th Party. He called for exerting greater efforts and rising to the level of pan-Arab and national responsibility in order to achieve the aims of our party and people: namely, unity, freedom, and socialism.

The meetings of the party branch secretaries and governors under Dr. Qaddah were attended by Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, members of the Regional Command, the two deputy prime ministers, some comrade ministers and deputies, heads of party bureaus, chairman of the Party Control and Inspection Commission, presidents of universities, and directors of media institutions. The conferees commended the generous offer by leader Hafiz al-Asad, the comrade party secretary general and president of the republic, in increasing the wages of government employees and the annuities of retirees.

The conferees continued their discussion of the items on their agenda. The leaders of popular organizations and professional unions continued to make their comments on the organizational and professional conditions of their organizations and unions and the great progress that has been made in expanding their bases and strengthening the solid national unity behind the historic and unique leadership of the comrade party secretary general and leader struggler Hafiz al-Asad. The comrade deputy prime minister for services affairs answered questions on drinking water and sewage. Other ministers answered questions in their specialized fields.

Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi addressed the meeting. He presented a general and detailed review of the economic developments which Syria has witnessed and is witnessing and the measures which it has taken and is taking to develop and strengthen the national economy in order to respond to the needs of the homeland and the citizens. He referred to the measures which are being taken to tackle the affairs of the national economy through self-reliance. He affirmed that the course of economic plurality initiated by the comrade party secretary general President Hafiz al-Asad has enabled all citizens to participate in building the homeland and provided a solid economic base which has enabled and continues to enable Syria to cope with the pressures which it has faced and is still facing in order to influence its national and pan-Arab decision. He affirmed that Syria is strong with its people and leader comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad.

The comrade prime minister cited new economic data which, he said, proves the strength of our national economy and the soundness of the policy directed by leader Hafiz al-Asad so that Syria will remain strong, depending on its own people and available national resources. He affirmed that Syria has great capabilities which continue to grow and that best exploitation of these capabilities will ensure the wellbeing of our people and also lead to further economic development and best exploitation and distribution of national resources.

The comrade prime minister referred to the measures which are being taken to tackle conditions in the industrial public sector, to operate factories at maximum capacity; to add new capabilities by increasing, improving, and diversifying production to meet the needs of local consumption; and to constantly increase, develop, and diversify Syrian exports. He also referred to the measures which are being taken to develop the agricultural sector and to provide capital goods. He explained with figures and facts the importance of what has already been achieved in this sector in order to ensure people's food through self-reliance.

The comrade prime minister spoke about the efforts which are being exerted to expand the base of productive investments through the public, private, and mixed sectors in implementation of the policy of economic plurality and to encourage the participation of all citizens in building the homeland. He referred to the number of projects which have been carried out so far under the Encouragement of Investment Law No. 10 of 1991, which reaffirms the soundness of the policies, measures, and procedures which are being taken to continuously develop the national economy.

The comrade prime minister also spoke about the measures which are being taken to ensure the citizens' needs of commodities and basic foodstuffs under good specifications and at reasonable prices and to prevent supply suffocations and price speculation. He explained the importance of the measures which have been taken in this regard. He affirmed that these measures will be continued and developed in order to protect both consumers and producers. He also referred to the measures which are being taken to achieve a greater financial and economic equilibrium, affirming that these measures will be further entrenched in order to develop our national economy and achieve a comprehensive, balanced, and continuous development.

The comrade prime minister also affirmed that efforts are being continued to carry out more services projects for the sake of the people's wellbeing and social progress. He referred to the large investments which are being put into different projects, including drinking water, health care, sewage, electricity, and other essential services for the people.

The comrade prime minister referred to the great generous offer which was made by comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad to the sons of our people represented by the increase in the wages of civil servants and the annuities of retirees. This increases the awareness of the masses that leader struggler Hafiz al-Asad feels the people's pulse and suffering in all sincerity and honesty. This generous gesture, which is the biggest wage increase to be given to civil servants and retirees so far and which will amount to more than 18 billion Syrian pounds annually, confirms the strength of our national economy, he said. He added that Syria is strong with its people and leader Hafiz al-Asad and that nothing will stop it from proceeding toward achieving our people's national and pan-Arab aims.

The comrade secretaries of the party branches and governors continued their meetings yesterday morning under Dr. Sulayman Qaddah. The meeting was attended by comrades 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, speaker of the People's Assembly; Mahmud al-Zu'bi, prime minister; members of the Regional Command, the two deputy prime ministers; some ministers; the chairman of the Party Control and Inspection Commission; the deputy heads of party bureaus; the presidents of universities; and the directors of media institutions.

Comrade Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' presented a review of the recent political developments on the Arab and international levels. He said: The landslides and repercussions resulting from the breakup of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia and the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait are still continuing in one form or another on the regional and international levels.

Al-Shar' added: The world is still going through a transitional phase full of great challenges after the old international system has collapsed without being replaced by a new international order of sound and balanced international relations. The situation in the Arab homeland has also been further fragmented as a result of the Gulf War. Inter-Arab relations are weak and loose, Arab obligations have receded, and Arab solidarity has deteriorated to a lower level.

Having reviewed the current situation in Iraq, the blockade imposed on Libya, the events that took place in Somalia, the regrettable developments in Algeria, and the recent tragic conflagration in Yemen, Al-Shar' said: These grave developments and challenges could not have been confronted so wisely and courageously were it not for the Corrective Movement and the unique leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad.

Al-Shar' added: The Corrective Movement and its historic leader are the strongest guarantee and fortification for Arab Syria in facing the different challenges on the Arab and international levels. He said: Syria has remained sincere to its course, loyal to its principles, and its leader President Hafiz al-Asad has always made the correct and courageous decisions which express the nation's concerns and legitimate aspirations and continuously adhere to Arab solidarity and the common interests and destiny of the Arab nation.

The comrade foreign minister affirmed that Syria's pan-Arab role in Lebanon and its concern for its unity and national reconciliation have prevented that country from becoming another Bosnia or Afghanistan. Al-Shar' said: The wise decision which was made by the president at the Cairo summit following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait had spared the Arabs from an even more disastrous and dangerous situation. He added: This Syrian Arab stand greatly reduced the losses and damages and preserved a minimum level of mutual Arab obligations, at least among the eight Arab states which signed the Damascus Declaration.

The comrade foreign minister affirmed that during the occupation of Kuwait, Israel had planned to have a say in Arab decisions and resources and to normalize its relations with the Arab Gulf states and other Arab states without withdrawing from the occupied Arab territories or committing itself to implementing the UN resolutions relating to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine question.

The comrade foreign minister added: The U.S. initiative, which is based on UN resolutions and international legitimacy and the principle of land for peace, would not have materialized in its present form were it not for Syria and the well-known resolve and wisdom of its leader, as well as the support of the sincere ones among his Arab brothers who adhered to the achievement of just and comprehensive peace based on international legitimacy and the UN resolutions.

The comrade foreign minister reviewed the stages of the peace process and its recent developments in light of the continued U.S. efforts, despite Israel's attempts to place obstacles from to time on the path of this process. In this regard, comrade al-Shar' referred to the deportation of more than 400 Palestinians, the Hebron massacre and the acts of murder and suppression which followed it, the siege on the occupied territories and Holy Jerusalem, and Israel's continuous aggressions on Lebanon. He also referred to Israel's desperate efforts to play down the impact and results of the Geneva summit between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Bill Clinton.

The comrade foreign minister affirmed that Syria's adherence to its national and pan-Arab principles is neither stubbornness nor extremism but a sincere expression of its firm desire to achieve the option which Syria has chosen out of its own free will in order to achieve just and comprehensive peace which ends Israeli occupation, guarantees Arab rights, and ensures security and stability for everyone in the region.

After the comrade foreign minister had replied to all questions and queries from the comrade participants, the conferees continued to make their comments on organizational, educational, and other public issues concerning the citizens.

Paper: U.S. Efforts Require 'New Determination'

JN1406080094 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Separate Solution and the Carrot Policy," TISHRIN says in an editorial: The separate solution cannot guarantee dignity or rights to those who chose it as a means to end the conflict with Israel. The Gaza-Jericho agreement is fresh, living proof of this.

The paper adds: The Oslo agreement maintained the Israeli economic hegemony and turned the self-rule leaders into tax collectors begging for help and charity from the Arab and world financial centers.

The paper stresses that the separate solution means abandoning the international legitimacy and UN resolutions, as well as the principles on which the peace process was based. It also means that Israel is appointed the only point of reference for all agreements and steps that may be accomplished.

The paper adds: Israel is not only eating the carrot, but also the hand that extends it.

The paper reviews the ceaseless aggressive Israeli conduct toward the Arabs, the oppressive and repressive acts in the occupied Arab territories, the acts of piracy against Lebanon, and its continued attempts to implement plans for hegemony and tutelage over the region.

TISHRIN concludes: Separate solutions will not bring security, peace, or dignity to the Arabs; nor will they return to them their usurped rights. That is why Israel adopted such solutions. That is also why Syria opposed them and adhered to the comprehensive solution that will allow the Arab parties to negotiate from a position of strength and force Israel to make a full withdrawal and recognize the Arab rights in full.

Under the headline "Christopher's Tour And What Is Required From The United States," AL-BA'TH says: U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher will be returning to the region and we do not know if he will be carrying anything new to deal with the conditions for a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace. However, Secretary Christopher knows that the obstruction comes from Israel, and not the Arabs. It is Israel which is occupying the Arabs' territory, staging aggression against them every day, and defying the international will.

The paper notes that the new endeavor must have new determination, not less than that displayed by Foster Dulles and the late U.S. President Eisenhower during the tripartite aggression against Egypt.

The paper adds: We do not want the United States to be in conflict with its ally, Israel, but we do not want it to be against the Arabs, especially since it has seen the Arabs' concern for what is right.

The paper stresses that the Syria of Hafiz al-Asad does not bargain, nor does it gamble with its national and pan-Arab principles as some people have done and are doing.

AL-BA'TH concludes by saying: Before Christopher's departure for the region, Israeli Prime Minister Rabin said that he sticks to occupation and refuses to withdraw from the Golan Heights. Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres also played down the significance of the U.S. secretary's visit. We therefore feel that Israel is seeking to foil or call off the event. This shows the extent of Israel's obstruction of peace and the peace efforts.

Under the headline "The Israeli Obstruction," AL-THAWRAH says: If it was not for Israel's intransigent conduct, the peace process would have made great strides toward achieving its objective. Israel's insistence on depriving the peace process of its substance and diverting it from its correct course prevented any progress.

The paper feels that effective pressure must be applied against Israel to force it to change its policy into a serious policy that agrees with the international will and responds, without any hesitation, to the requirements of peace, particularly complete withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories.

AL-THAWRAH concludes by saying: The United States is the only party that can apply such pressure on Israel since it is one of the peace process sponsors and the source of the unjustified support for Israel. Will the United States start exercising its responsibility in showing concern for continuing the peace process until it achieves its goal of a just and comprehensive peace?

In another commentary entitled "Who Rejects Peace," AL-THAWRAH says: Israel's attempts to cast doubts on Syria's intentions toward peace constitute an aggression against the international legitimacy, which acknowledged that there can be no peace in the Middle East without Syria.

The paper stresses that Syria will not allow Israel to deprive peace of its just substance.

Radio Says U.S. Must Offer 'Clear Answers'

JN1306173294 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: With the U.S. Secretary of State reportedly due for another Middle East tour this month, it is worth remembering the Middle East peacemaking role to which Bill Clinton's administration committed itself when it came to power. We have no doubt in our mind that the United States has abdicated that role—the role of evenhanded broker and full partner. The United

States cannot be unaware of the neutrality and even-handedness that such a role presupposes if it is to lead to the establishment of a peace predicated on justice.

Israel, however, does not want the United States to play such a role. Invariably, Israel is prepared to empty any international role of its content if it is based on the principles of international legitimacy and justice.

No wonder top Israeli officials have advised against another tour of the Middle East by the U.S. secretary of state. Israel has no need for forward movement in the peace process; it wants Washington to stay as strongly biased to its wrongheadedness and aggression as it has been for the past half century and to continue as its protector in international forums. Israeli leaders are anxious for the United States to be little more than a false witness to separate deals that impose Israel's terms on the Arab states one by one, thereby enabling it not only to retain Arab territory but to ensure its edge over the combined Arabs.

We do not think the U.S. administration, the one superpower on Earth, which has taken on the challenge of bringing peace to this region, will acquiesce in its role being so reduced. The United States is much too important a world power to bow to the will of a recalcitrant party flying in the face of international law and UN resolutions. It does not serve the interests of the United States to let Israel have its own way and dictate its own terms for a peace settlement in the region. U.S. interests are best served by an egalitarian and enduring peace.

Warren Christopher, having come to the region many times, is now fully conversant with the respective positions of the Middle East players. He is all too aware which side wants peace and which side is placing obstacles in its path. For peace to come to the region, the UN resolutions—the underpinnings of the Madrid conference and the peace process—must be implemented. This is especially true, since, by the admission of their advocates, separate deals will not produce peace. Far from leading to peace, such an approach will only minimize its chances.

If Mr. Christopher is coming to the region to propel the peace process on the Syrian track forward, he needs to come up with new ideas and clear answers to the core questions posed by Damascus when the U.S. secretary was last here. The future of the peace process largely depends on the kind of answers he brings.

We do not think the U.S. administration will put its credibility and reputation on the line and renounce its pivotal role in the peace process. Nor do we think Washington will take the trouble of sending its chief diplomat to the region without giving him ideas that will make his trip worth the bother.

Peace is a noble endeavor to which Syria is dedicated; President Clinton's administration and the whole world know this is the case. However, Damascus is pursuing an all-encompassing and fair peace—the peace of the brave. This, too, is known to Washington and the whole world to be the case.

If Israel wants this kind of peace, it knows the road leading there. If not, it will remain an unrealizable dream.

Paper Stresses Peace Stand, Lebanese Resistance

JN1306085594 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 13 Jun 94

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Falsifying Facts Does Not Serve the Peace Process," AL-BA'TH newspaper editorial says: Although the entire world is now aware that Israel is responsible for halting the peace process, and, consequently for the inability of the bilateral peace talks in Washington to achieve what they were supposed to achieve, the Tel Aviv government still insists on reversing and falsifying facts by claiming that Syria is behind the failure to achieve the supposed breakthrough in the peace talks.

The paper says that Israel continues to repeat this because Syria, from the outset of the peace talks, has been rejecting any peace outside the Madrid formula, stressing that peace should be based on the resolutions of international legitimacy.

AL-BA'TH adds: This position basically conflicts with the known Israeli plans to drag the Arab parties into signing separate peace deals which would acknowledge everything Israel wants.

AL-BA'TH notes that Syria's consistent and positive position on the peace process has been described by the U.S. administration and all world governments as the key to regional peace. The paper adds: The Geneva summit results and President Hafiz al-Asad's statements proved without any doubt that Syria is truly working for a just and comprehensive peace in the region, especially since the president stressed full withdrawal in return for full peace. In this regard, the paper points to the U.S. President's reply that Syria has the right to demand the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace.

AL-BA'TH continues: Definitely, this U.S. statement was based on the facts of the regional conflict, and, consequently, on a conviction that it is impossible for partial and separate solutions to bring about regional security, peace, and stability.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: Despite all that happened and may happen, the region will remain far from the real peace emphasized by the international community, unless there is full and absolute commitment to implementing all the requirements of a just and comprehensive peace, chief of which is a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories.

In the "With the Events" column, the newspaper AL-BA'TH says: The road to peace has clear features and signs. It begins with the implementation of the UN and Security Council resolutions. If this is not achieved, the national resistance in Lebanon will continue and will not retreat or compromise. The Israelis know better than others the resolve and solidity of this resistance. Only justice will triumph.

Radio on 'Weakness' of 'Certain Parties' in Dealing With Israel

JN1206133994 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: It is funny that Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres casts doubts about Syria's peace intentions. He said in a statement that he doubts that Damascus is prepared for real peace.

It is natural that Peres has no evidence of this, while the whole world has proof that Israel not only rejects peace, but seeks to sabotage it, divide its basic concepts, and besiege its objectives. It does this so that peace, which the world thinks should be comprehensive and just, is transformed into incomplete deals and separate and paralyzed agreements that preserve the occupation and strengthen hegemony, and entrenches aggression against the Arabs—aggression which has been continuing since 1948.

The Israel that continues to launch blatant aggressions against south Lebanon in the atmosphere of peace for which the international community has aspired, does not want peace. The Israel that kidnaps a Lebanese citizen, while he was safe among his family and children in a condemned act of piracy, does not want peace. The Israel that looks at the comprehensive peace process through narrow holes, and draws weak parties to the cycle of its interests, and exploits them for its objectives, does not want peace. It seeks to sabotage peace and to empty it of its just humanitarian contents. Israel seeks to change peace into mere deals between two parties: one that dictates, and one that submissively signs under the pretext of international circumstances and developments that cannot be confronted.

These are some of Israel's practices aimed at aborting the peace process. These practices emphasize that Israel understands peace far from its reality, and believes in it away from the facts of the region and logic. Israel wants to isolate parties, and then replace the comprehensive solution with partial solutions that serve its concept of peace and its interests while continuing the occupation and dictating other conditions that serve its future aggressive objectives. Regrettably, Israel has realized what it wants, due to Arab division and the weakness of certain parties and individuals as a result of shortsightedness, limited vision, and weakness of their pan-Arab affiliation and understanding of the objectives which the Arab people aspire to realize.

Nevertheless, while Syria is seeking to realize comprehensive and just peace it will never relinquish a grain of sand or a single right whether Peres casts doubts or not. No progress in the peace talks will be made unless Israel stops these practices and responds to the requisites of comprehensive peace, foremost of which is full withdrawal from the land to the borders of 4 June 1967 as one of the pillars of real peace—peace whose requisites were understood by the whole world, not the peace that Peres speaks about and wants. Peres is fully aware that Syria wants peace, and this peace does not cope at all with Israel's aggressive aspirations, but it restricts these aspirations in a manner that corrects things and restores just balances. This is how peace can be realized, and without this there will be no peace.

Bangladesh

Finance Minister Announces 1994-95 Budget

BK0906165594 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 9 Jun 94

[Text] The national budget for the next fiscal year has been announced. Finance Minister Saifur Rahman presented the budget for 1994-95 and the supplementary budget for the outgoing 1993-94 in the Jatiya Sangsad [parliament] this afternoon.

The total outlay of the budget for the next fiscal year divided into revenue and development budgets amounted to 24,637 core taka. The revenue budget shows a surplus of 3,689 crore taka. Revenue receipts for the next fiscal year are estimated at 13,637 crore taka; this is about 11 percent higher than the revised estimate of the current year. Tax revenue will contribute 10,625 crore taka. Nontax revenue is expected to show a healthy rise of 25.5 percent over the revised estimate for the outgoing fiscal year to 3,012 crore taka. Revenue expenditure for 1994-95 is estimated at 9,948 crore taka, which is 8.7 percent higher than the revised figure for 1993-94.

Allocations to priority sectors such as education, health and family welfare, irrigation, and flood control have been increased significantly. After adjusting for capital and food accounts, net contribution to the ADP [annual development program] from the revenue budget is expected to be 3,996 crore taka. The voluntary separation program will continue in the next fiscal year, for which 300 crore taka has been provided for. An ADP of 11,000 crore taka has been proposed for 1994-95; this is an increase of 14.5 percent over the revised ADP for the current fiscal year.

Taking into account the projects proposed under the Food for Work Program outside the ADP, the total public sector investment will stand at 11,513 crore taka. Thirty-eight percent of the fiscal year's ADP is estimated to be financed from the country's own resources. This clearly demonstrates the present government's success in reducing aid dependency to promote our cherished goal of a self-reliant Bangladesh.

Pursuing the government's policy of allocating resources to priority sectors that directly or indirectly contribute to poverty alleviation and human resources development, the proposed budget provided larger funds to several sectors. Of them, education will get 1,556 crore taka, the highest allocation. It is an increase of nearly 60 percent over the current fiscal year. Health and family welfare will receive 20 percent increase over 1993-94 of 893 crore taka. Rural electrification, rural infrastructure, livestock, and fisheries—the sectors which can fast contribute to economic growth and simultaneously alleviate poverty—will all get higher allocations compared to the outgoing fiscal year. Social welfare, women, and youth will also have significant increase. The budget has provided 183 crore taka for this sector.

The finance minister also placed in parliament the revised and supplementary budget for the outgoing 1993-94 fiscal year. In the revised budget, revenue receipts have been estimated at 12,280 crore taka and the revenue expenditure is 9,150 crore taka. The restraint upon the current expenditure has yielded higher surplus to finance the ADP. The size of the revised ADP has been kept at 9,600 crore taka, which is 18 percent higher than the previous year's revised ADP.

The sectors that received additional allocations in the revised ADP are education, 275 crore taka; rural infrastructure, 125 crore taka; rural electrification, 100 crore taka; and roads and highways, 220 crore taka. Besides, an additional amount of 444 crore taka has been provided for the Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge. It is important to note that domestic resources are contributing 35.8 percent of the revised ADP, a major step toward economic self-reliance.

Spelling the main objectives of the budget, the finance minister said the integral components of the government's broader strategy for the medium term is to achieve a GDP growth rate of around 6 percent, to contain inflation and fiscal deficit, and reduce aid dependence. Other objectives included enhancing mobilization of domestic savings, investments, and promoting self- reliance. He said the government plans to raise the growth rate of GDP to 6-7 percent in the near term while aiming at a double-digit growth before the turn of the century. This would require raising the aggregate level of investment from the present level of 14.5 to 16 percent in the immediate future, eventually reaching 20 percent of the GDP.

Mr. Saifur Rahman said the cornerstone of the government's development strategy is to improve the quality and productivity of public investments with emphasis on social sectors. He said the BNP [Bangladesh Nationalist Party] government has entered the fourth year of its term and it is appropriate to take an objective look at the government's performances during these three years. The finance minister said growth rate of GDP has improved; the country is expected to show a modest level of 5 percent growth this year.

Turning to the rural economy, he said a quiet revolution is under way and it is not only generating economic growth from new sources but also transforming the composition of production, consumption, and employment. Mr. Saifur Rahman said housing is an important growth sector and the House Building Finance Corporation has been made fully operational to cater to the needs of the people. It is expected to sanction 500 crore taka for house building loans next year.

The finance minister announced further incentives for agricultural growth by reducing the prices of kerosene and diesel by one taka per liter and furnace oil by about 3,000 taka per metric ton. The government has further decided to lower the urea fertilizer price by 350 taka per metric ton.

The finance minister, while giving details of the fiscal measures proposed in the new budget, said these are primarily aimed at giving relief to the people as well as infuse dynamism in the national economy. He said due care has also been taken to bring about specific structural changes in the taxation system and make it more scientific to (?cope) with the changing global economic scenario. Mr. Saifur Rahman proposed reduction of existing taxes and duties on a large number of essential items, including edible oil, sugar, cotton, and cotton yarn. Taxes were reduced on 148 basic raw materials and 1,024 industrial raw materials, hides and skins, crockery, low-lift pumps, power tillers, medical equipment and appliances, wood and wood products, TV, locally produced construction material, scientific instruments, sports gear, bicycles, telephone equipment, stamp charge on registration of land, and materials used in dairy farms. He also announced a total abolition of duties on the import of improved breed of cattle from abroad.

The finance minister has also proposed increase of duties and taxes on a few items to help encourage their increased production in the country. In this connection, he proposed 7.5 percent duty on globe and atlas, 15 percent increase on cut flower, and 15 percent supplementary duty on gray portland cement. He also proposed to raise duty on MS [mild steel] billet from 15 to 30 percent and duty rate on certain tobacco and tobacco products will also be increased, depending on their prices. Passengers traveling abroad would be required to pay 50 taka per head in addition to the existing travel tax. However, all surcharges and levies for Jamuna Bridge have been withdrawn.

The finance minister said the new fiscal measures are in the line of the present democratic government's commitment to ensure welfare of the people through the adoption of various pragmatic measures. The new measures will also go a long way in further strengthening of the national economy. He said due to the reduction in taxes and duties in a large number of daily-use [items], the total loss to the national exchequer will stand at 437 crore taka while the new fiscal measures will fetch only 55 crore taka. The finance minister said the shortfall thus created will be met through appropriate administrative measures including intensified drive to realize arrear revenues, curb the propensity of avoidance and evasion through enforcing the existing provisions of law, introduction of computer processing in Dhaka and Chittagong Customs Houses and the income tax offices.

Mr Saifur Rahman, giving an account of the present-day world economic order, said we will have to complete the reform process initiated by the present government. We must also build a political consciousness in favor of these reformative measures which will help the country achieve self-reliance through increased mobilization of domestic resources. The finance minister later introduced the Finance Bill 1994 in an amended form. The bill envisages enforcement of the government's fiscal proposals and amends certain laws.

Our parliamentary representatives says President Abdur Rahman Biswas, the chief of the Army and the Navy, diplomats, elites, members of the diplomatic corps, and high civil and military officials were among those present in the Sangsad during the presentation of the new budget by the finance minister. The members of the opposition were, however, absent. The house will meet again on Sunday next [12 June] at 1630 in the afternoon.

India

Document Criticizes Public Sector Performance

BK1406092494 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 11 June 94 p 15

[Text] New Delhi—Congress shedding all manner of diffidence over the economic reforms, has resolved to go the whole hog culminating in the State engaged only in social endeavour rather than industry.

The axe will inevitably fall on the grossly inefficient public sector, the sick industry and inefficient state power boards, Congress economic policy resolution adopted by the AICC here declared. There will be more reform as the people want more reform, and these will have to travel down to the district level.

Finance Minister Manmohan Singh and Agriculture Minister Balram Jakhar led the Government's defence of its economic policiers while participating in the debate on the economic resolution .

The resolution was later passed after a four-hour debate.

Role of the Government in the new environment already stands transformed, the Congress document stated. The State will gradually shift out of industry and trade in order to concentrate on education, rural, development, and healthcare, the party resolution said in what is a complete and clean break from the baggage of socialist ideology.

This, as the party bosses including N D Tiwari and Pranab Mukherjee who opened the debate on the economic policy stated, was the essence of the middle path advocated by Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao in his Davos speech earlier this year.

The middle path meant unleashing the economy, with the Government assuming the responsibility of social tasks.

Launching a veiled attack on the public sector, Congress declared that "social obligations are best met when public enterprises make profits, and not losses." Taxpayers had invested Rs 140,000 crore in the Central public sector, while returns are less than Rs 300 crore per year.

Government would have to give the highest priority to "technological, organisational, and managerial restructuring of the public sector so that it operates commercially in a businesslike manner.'

Rarlgarajan anl Goswarni committee reports on the restructuring of the public sector must be implemented.

In similar vein, Congress has cracked the whip on inefficient state electricity boards.

Congress To Defend Economic 'Sovereignty'

BK1406091994 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 11 Jun 94 p 12

[Text] The AICC [All-India Congress Committee] session unanimously adopted the economic resolution here tonight after senior ministers handling core economic subjects told the members that the reforms underway are meant to make India strong so that it could stand on its own feet.

Urging the members not to be misled by the vicious opposition propaganda about the Government's new economic policies, Finance Minister Manmohan Singh and Commerce Minister Pranab Mukheriee maintained that the country's economic sovereignty would not be compromised at any cost.

Interestingly, former Union Minister N. D. Tiwari moved the economic resolution, which was seconded by Mr Mukherjee. Mr Tiwari emphasised that the economic reforms were meant to overcome challenges of the future particularly in the 21st century.

Mr Tiwari said the economic reforms were not for improving the stock markets and the like but to give a push to socio economic policies envisaged by Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri and Rajiv Gandhi. He had no doubt that India would be one of the big powers in the 21st century. "We will ensure that nobody can dictate to us."

Mr Tiwari said one must be realistic about where the world was heading and these reforms were necessary for allround development and the uplift of the poor. In this context, he said China was also looking outwards and wanting to become a member of GATT as also Vietnam and Fidel Castro's Cuba.

Mr Mukherjee attacked the Opposition accusing it of spreading misconception. Stoutly defending the Centre's decision to initiate steps to attract more foreign direct investment, he said these were required for higher growth.

"Our economic reforms are not a pipe-dream", Mr Mukherjee said and lauded the middle path adopted by his Government.

Dr Manmohan Singh made it clear that the Government was providing all possible encouragement to the public sector. He said they wanted the public sector to be profitable because these could be ploughed for the benefit of poorer sections in the rural areas.

Dr Singh said the Government was committed not to retrench public sector employees while restructuring PSUs [public sector units].

"We will not allow the Indian working class to suffer."

Agriculture Minister Balram Jakhar charged the BJP with misleading the farmers on the GATT agreement even though the Opposition did not know about all the existing varieties of seeds.

Congress Rejects Criticism of GATT Agreement

BK1406093994 Delhi THE PIONEER in English 11 Jun 94 p 11

[Text] The All Indian Congress Committee (AICC) on Friday dismissed criticism of its economic polic of inviting foreign investment and congratulated the Government for reviving the "sick economy" it had inherited from the non-Congress governments in 1991.

The resolution which was introduced by Mr Narain Dutt Tewari and seconded by Commerce Minisster Pranab Mukherjee, praised the Narasimha Rao Government for carrying on the policies of Rajiv Gandhi under the overall perspective chalked out by late Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi.

It condemned the "baseless, mischievous and malicious propaganda launched by non-Congress parties against India's signing of the GATT agreement. It said it recognised the benefits that the country would get from the multilateral, rule-based trading system. "A multilateral system which is based on negotiations and flexibility is better for a country like India."

Observing that the public sector was extremely useful for the economy, the resolution said "the public sector will, however have to become profitable. Such obligations are best met when public enterprises make profits, not losses."

In a highly self-congratulatory tone it noted that India was the only country in the world that had recorded positive growth rates in the first three years of its reforms-cum-fiscal correction programme. It urged the Government to effectively deal with the problems confronting urban India and said the time has come to look at rural and urban development not separately but as interlinked phenomena.

Later, intervening in the debate, Finance Minister Manmohan Singh said a lot of funds from the non-resident Indians and foreign investments had come in due to the new economic policy being pursued by the Centre. This would boost production and generate employment, taking India towards progress and self-reliance, Dr Singh said while rounding up the discussion on the economic resolution.

Earlier Mr Mukherjee said the Centre's policy was to attract direct foreign investments for higher growth and instead of depending on borrowings alone.

However, the foreign investment would come "on our terms and in areas we consider essential", he said.

Steps 'To Allay' U.S. IPR Concerns Promised

BK1406110194 Delhi THE PIONEER in English 10 Jun 94 p 11

[Text] India is taking steps to allay US concerns over the lack of adequate intellectual property rights (IPR) protections, according to Naresh Chandra, senior adviser to the Prime Minister and former Cabinet Secretary.

Giving the keynote speech at the beginning of a two-day seminar on "Technology transfer and other joint venture opportunities in the new India" here, Mr Chandra noted the hurdles created in many sensitive areas while concluding agreements on transfer of technology between the two countries.

"Strong opinions have been expressed from both sides and the provisions in the GATT agreement pertaining to the patent system have caused acrimonious debate," conceded Mr Chandra at the meeting which was organised by Business Development Associates.

However, consequent to the agreement signed on December 15 last year in Marrakech, "India will be introducing necessary amendments to the Indian Patent Act of 1970," Mr Chandra said, echoing the Prime Minister's assurances to US Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and US Trade Representative (USTR) Mickey Kantor.

A little over a month ago, India, along with China and Argentina, got a reprieve of 60 days from the USTR to improve its patent and copyright laws. Otherwise, it was in danger of being listed as a Special 301 country, one that was not meeting the conditions of trade laid down in the US Trade Act.

The Patent Act amendment, Mr Chandra said, would increase the period of protection from seven years to 14 years in the case of pharmaceuticals and processed foods and 20 years in other cases.

He stressed that New Delhi had traditionally been cognisant of the need to protect IPR, a view strongly disputed by Washington's senior officials.

The Copyright Act was also being amended for the protection of performers, sound recorders and broadcasting organisations. Furthermore, trade marks, trade secrets and industrial designs were protected under laws conforming to international standards, Mr Chandra insisted.

"Apprehensions with regard to protection of IPR and infringements of patents and copyright have been exaggerated in the past," he said.

N Vittal, Secretary, Telecommunications, was also invited to the meetings, but was unable to attend because of preoccupations.

Iran

Envoy Denies Test-Firing of DPRK Missile

LD1306145194 Tehran IRNA in English 1343 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] June 13, IRNA—Iran's ambassador to Tokyo, Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardebili here today denied a KYODO report that Iran was test-firing N. Korean missile.

KYODO on Sunday quoted a U.S. weekly, "U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT," that Japan was urging Iran to stop the missile test.

In a letter to managing director of the International Department of KYODO news service, the ambassador said the United States has launched a campaign to pressure Japan and other industrial countries to limit their commercial activities with Iran by raising such allegations.

"Regarding our nuclear program, as part of its post-war reconstruction, Iran has sought to repair its damaged industrial infrastructure. Major damage was inflicted on Iran's power generation facilities. To deal with this urgent problem and to meet the growing demand of the population, Iran has looked to other sources. Major investments have been made in the past 20 years in nuclear power generation and it is natural to continue and build on these investments for the immediate and prospective power needs of the nation," the ambassador said.

"Our nuclear facilities have been visited and inspected by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and their peaceful applications have been verified," said the ambassador.

Envoy to UN Protests U.S. Actions in Gulf

LD1306210294 Tehran IRNA in English 2025 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] United Nations HQ. (New York), June 13, IRNA—Iran's Permanent Envoy to the United Nations Kamal Kharazi today protested the U.S. warships and helicopters' interruption and chase of Iranian naval boats and helicopters engaged in routine duty in the waters of the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman.

Kharazi in a letter to the UN Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali pointed out 10-cases of interruption by the intruding American naval fleet in Iran's regional waters between October 20 to February 5, 1994.

The Iranian non-military boats and helicopters were on their routine inspection tour of off-shore oil platforms when the U.S. warships, helicopters and fighters interrupted their course and started taking video films and photographs of the Iranian installations in the Persian Gulf.

The letter was circulated here as a U.N. document today.

Last month Iran had protested to America through its interest section at the Pakistani Embassy in Washington.

Daily Says U.S. Behind Amman-Tel Aviv Accord

LD1406083194 Tehran IRNA in English 0618 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA—A morning daily here Tuesday wrote that the fresh Amman-Tel Aviv agreement to iron out differences has been inked upon the U.S. pressure on Jordan.

'TEHRAN TIMES' said in its editorial that apparently Jordan has been spurred by the recent U.S. Congress decision to grant a financial aid to Israel and by the U.S. white charter to lift economic sanction clamped on Israel.

"Obviously, the U.S. is determined to resolve the problems and challenges it faces in the Middle East before stepping into the next century," said the paper. This is of paramount significance for the U.S. in view of the fact that Europe, in a centrifugal move, created propitious ground to gain independence from the U.S. in the post cold war epoch. Now the U.S. strives to establish absolute sway over the Middle East in a drive to recompense for having lost its grip on Europe, the article noted.

"In tune with this strategy, Washington has hastily embarked upon accelerating the domino effect of compromise in the Middle East," it said, adding "Washington fails to realize that such strategies serve only as tranquilizer rather than remedies for U.S. allies in the region."

Stressing that the Middle East problems can be solved through the concerted efforts of all regional peoples, the paper concluded by saying that Israel has never been able to conceal its true face in the Middle East's political scene no matter what mask it has worn.

Paper Advocates Restrictions on Trade With UK

NC1206112394 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 2 Jun 94 p 28

[Unattributed article from the "Foreign Policy Desk"]

[Text] Following the announcement of the expulsion of the second diplomat from the British Embassy in Tehran by the Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry, the British Government declared that the reason for expelling the Iranian diplomat was the dissemination of false documents regarding Britain's activities and position on Bosnia-Herzegovina.

When the British Foreign Office summoned the charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran in London last week and informed him of its decision, it did not divulge the name of the expelled diplomat and the reason for this action. Yesterday, it announced the name of the Iranian first secretary Bilurchi and claimed that he had circulated false documents regarding the anti-Muslim policy followed by the British forces deployed in that region.

The following points may be noted in this regard:

1. The British policy with regard to the Bosnian Muslims requires no affirmation by means of forged documents as the anti- Muslim policy of the British authorities regarding the oppressed Bosnian Muslims is known to all.

The actions and allegations of the British political and military officials are so numerous that their publication would require reams and reams of paper. RESALAT has repeatedly written that if justice were to prevail in the world, British and military representatives such as David Owen should be impeached on charges of complicity in the massacre of the Bosnian Muslims.

The British Government has played the primary role in preventing the Muslims from gaining access to arms for their defense to save themselves from the Serbs' aggression and by the induction of Russia in the political talks on Bosnia-Herzegovina, it paved the way for further pressure on the Muslims.

2. The actual point that the British Government wishes to conceal by these miscellaneous charges against Iran is the same issue of its espionage. The British security officials planted a plethora of listening devices in the building of the Iranian Embassy in London so that the building cannot be used for normal purposes and has to be entirely reconstructed. Such an act has completely destroyed the already tarnished position of London.

3. Britain's weak point lies not in a diplomatic war but in economic pressure. Why should we have such firm economic relations with a government that is completely unreliable from the political point of view? What is the reason for the centers for extensive purchases for Iran's industrial ministries in London, especially the office for its oil sales? In addition to minimizing economic relations, some thought should be given to the transfer of these purchase centers to other countries.

Foreign Minister Velayati Departs for Bonn Talks

LD1306082794 Tehran IRNA in English 0812 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Tehran, June 13, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati left here for Bonn Monday at the official invitation of his German counterpart Klaus Kinkel to discuss mutual ties and key regional and international issues. During his two-day visit, Velayati will discuss Iran's ties with the European Union in his meetings with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Foreign Minister Kinkel and other German officials.

Political observers attach great importance to Velayati's visit with regard to the fact that Germany will take over the rotating chairmanship of the European Union next month.

Radio Commentary on Ties With Germany

NC1406095494 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Commentary by News Research and Commentary Group]

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati, who is currently visiting Germany on an official invitation from his German counterpart, met German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and conveyed a message from President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Among the issues discussed during the meeting were the situation in Europe; developments in the European Union [EU] in view of the fact that Germany will assume the presidency soon; ways of expanding relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the European Union [EU]; multilateral cooperation with Central Asia, the Caucasus, and the Economic Cooperation Organization [ECO].

In addition, the head of the Foreign Policy Committee of the German parliament and the spokesman for the Social Democratic Party [SPD], the opposition, as well as the spokesman of the ruling Christian Democrat party met with Dr. Velayati. In the course of these talks, the stances of the two countries on regional and international issues, especially those pertaining to Afghanistan, Turkey, Iraq, and developments in the Middle East were elaborated on.

Ever since the victory of the Islamic revolution—except for the first few years when the SPD under the leadership of Helmut Schmidt was in power—relations between the two countries have not been able to strengthen under the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] led by Helmut Kohl. [sentence as heard] In the period that this party has been at the helm, it has achieved some victories, such as German unification. In view of the recent successes of the CDU in the presidential elections and with its gaining the necessary votes in the European parliament, the continued rule of this party seems likely in the future.

In this period, the relations between Tehran and Bonn have been one of the most stable with any European country. Every year has witnessed an increase in the number of economic and financial exchanges between the two countries. Germany is Iran's foremost trading partner and heads the list of importers of Iranian commodities. The largest volume of Iran's non-oil exports is sent to Germany, which collaborates with Iran in numerous infrastructural and industrial projects.

President Receives Turkmen Parliament Speaker

LD1306104094 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Mr. Muradov, the speaker of Turkmenistan's parliament who is visiting Iran at the head of a parliamentary delegation, was received today by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

During the meeting, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the good memories that senior delegations of the two countries have had from their trips to Tehran and Ashgabat. He remarked that the result of recent talks with Turkmenistan's president in Mashhad was positive.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: There are common cultural and religious elements between the people of Iran and Turkmenistan as well as trust and sincerity between the officials of the two countries, and we hope that the agreements will be carried out.

The Central News Unit reports that during this meeting, the speaker of Turkmenistan's parliament conveyed warm greetings from Saparmurat Niyazov, his country's president, and expressed satisfaction over the speed of progress in cooperation between the two countries. He said: Parliamentary cooperation is expanding between the two countries and we hope that cooperation will further grow in all fields, especially regarding the agreements reached during the recent trip by Turkmenistan's president to Mashhad.

President Says Economy in Better Shape

LD1106174294 Tehran IRNA in English 1713 GMT 11 Jan 94

[Text] Tehran, June 11, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in his inaugural address to the Second Congress of Construction Jihad here today said the country was on the road to progress and despite the existing bottlenecks the economic situation was in "complete natural gear."

He said Iran possesses machineries, industrial raw materials and energy sources, which fact should make the path of the second 5-year development smoother.

The Iranian economy was in a better position today than five years ago, he added.

On the fuel problem in the country, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said Iran would face no problem in this connection since its natural gas production of 120 to 130 million cubic meters per day exceeds its domestic demand of only 80 million cubic meters.

He appreciated the efforts of construction jihad workers and reiterated the importance of training and research for the country's reconstruction.

Khamene'i Urges Muslims Not To Sell Oil to West

LD1106152494 Tehran IRNA in English 1428 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Tehran, June 11, IRNA—Leader of Islamic revolution Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i blamed those oil-producing states who supported hegemonic powers rather than defending the rights of their own countries and nations causing sharp fall in oil prices.

Ayatollah Khamene'i made the remark in the oil-rich city of Gachsaran Friday morning on the last day of his four-day tour of Kohkiloyeh-Boyer Ahmad Province in southwestern Iran.

The leader also said that Iran was the only member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to annnounce its stance and seriously insist on it.

Ayatollah Khamene'i said that the progress of arrogant Europe and America is based on oil which belongs to the Middle East, Persian Gulf and other Muslim regions. If the Muslims stop the export of their oil to the West, the industrial societies would be reduced to lifeless shells, he added.

Ayatollah Khamene'i further noted that due to the treachery of some of the regional allies of Europe and America, oil—the backbone of industiral civilzaiton—is sold at a very low price so much so that the West's profit from oil imports and taxes is much higher than what the producing countries gain through oil exports.

Leader of the Islamic revolution said that the awakening of the Muslim nations was the only remedy to the problems of the Muslim world.

Gas Exploration With Qatar Considered

NC1306110194 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran and Qatar are planning to set up a technical committee to study cooperation in the extraction of gas from joint reserves in the Persian Gulf.

On his return from Qatar yesterday, Petroleum Minister Aqazadeh announced the project. He said: The Islamic Republic of Iran and Qatar jointly own a vast gas reserve in the Persian Gulf and Qatar has started extracting from it.

With the establishment of a committee, which is to meet in Tehran next month, the two countries will cooperate in exchanging the technical knowledge, utilization, and sale of gas from this joint reserve.

Petroleum Minister Aqazadeh, who was speaking to our correspondent, referred to the upcoming OPEC ministerial session to be held 15 June in Vienna. He said: The session was discussed with the Qatari petroleum minister. Since there is a vast difference between the current oil price and the $21 price approved by OPEC, Iran and Qatar—in their capacity as members—have made efforts to develop a common stance on how to resolve the problems facing OPEC.

Central Bank Governor Cited on Private Banks

LD1406115794 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Private credit institutions will be established soon and the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran will guarantee their activities. These establishments will be able to receive deposits and can participate in production and economic activities nationwide.

Central Bank Governor Adeli today explained the activities of the private credit institutions. He told our correspondent that a set of rules and regulations has been prepared allowing those who wish to establish such credit institutions to hand over their application forms to the Central Bank next week. Conditional on approval by the Money and Credit Council, such persons will be able to begin their activities.

The Central Bank governor added: Such institutions will be able to receive deposits and open all kinds of deposit accounts apart from the Qarz ol-Hasaneh current accounts [goodwill loans] which only banks may deal with.

Also, the initial capital for the establishment of such institutions should amount to at least five billion riyals and a part of the capital should be held in cash in the institution's own safe. A part of the deposit should be held at the Central Bank. Mr. Adeli said: The highest loan paid out by such institutions will be 15 times the deposited capital.

According to Mr. Adeli, in this way the Central Bank will be able to precisely supervise the activities of the private credit institutions and therefore guarantee them.

On the rate of profit paid by such institutions he said: They can expect to pay one percent more profit than the current rate paid by [ordinary] credit institutions for the facilities provided; and they can determine their own rates for their deposit accounts. He stressed that the private credit institutions are not allowed to engage in usury transactions and will operate according to the law on usury.

The Central Bank governor added: The rules and regulations for the establishment of such institutions have been approved by the Cabinet and by the Money and Credit Council; and following a request made by the Central Bank, the Guardians Council announced that the action is not against the Constitution or the religious laws.

Jannati Friday Prayers First Sermon

LD1006152694 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Jun 94

[First Friday prayers sermon by Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, member of the Council of Guardians and acting Friday prayers leader, in Tehran on 10 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] The first sermon on this Friday, because of the issue of the pilgrimage and the events which took place in Mecca and Medina, is naturally about that subject. I shall talk to you dear ones briefly about it.

The first is the issue of that of disavowal. We believe—and his holiness the imam [Khomeyni], God be satisfied with him, and the esteemed leader [Khamene'i] have also recommended—that disavowal must be carried out, that the disavowal ritual cannot be cancelled and is a duty, and that efforts should be made for that duty to be performed in the best manner.

This year the House of Al Sa'ud treated the honorable Iranian pilgrims and the esteemed leader's mission roughly and harshly. They kept the mission under siege a few days up to 17 May. The siege was ugly. The Saudi forces were in three rows and in emplacements; they had brought military hardware, machine guns, cannons and tanks; riot squads were there with their riot gear and water cannons and such were at hand here and there.

It was foreseen from the start that an unpleasant situation was imminent. But we said, perhaps we will be able to carry out our duty. Then, closer to the mission, we got a tighter circle of the besieging troops and stricter traffic restrictions to and from the mission.

A sister of one of the faithful who lived in an Arab country and who had come to visit him was stopped on her return and was interrogated for an hour. She was asked: Where were you and what was your business. Her address was obtained. There was such harsh and dreadful behavior. There was a police state and martial law around the mission.

Under those circumstances, the question was what to do, since preserving the sanctity and security of the shrine is a must for everyone. That action of the House of Al Sa'ud undermined security. Security means pilgrims to the holy house of God must be safe. Stationing armed troops and creating a police state and an emergency situation would deprive everybody of their security. That means everyone would be in fear, lest they are arrested, beaten or molested.

That action was breaking the security of the shrine. But it was clearly foreseen that if we were to hold the ceremony, there would be clashes and the desecration of the shrine would be much greater; moreover, the lives of pilgrims to the holy house of God would be endangered.

Under these circumstances it was decided that this year's disavowal of infidels ceremonies should not take place. Our duty was in fact nothing but to obey what we had been ordered. God has ordered that if a pilgrim, who wants to go to Mecca in order to carry out the pilgrimage, finds himself impeded—that is, he faces a closed route—even though he has committed himself to the rites by putting on his special hajj attire, he is authorized to perform merely the part to do with slaughtering sheep, and then remove his hajj attire and return home. He is authorized to do the same if, for instance, he becomes ill during the pilgrimage. This is Islam's decree. The same decree obviously applies to other pilgrimage obligations, such as the disavowal of infidels ceremonies. We had no other choice, as we did not seek to have caused the violation of the sanctity of the holy shrine.

This was what I had to say about the disavowal of infidels ceremonies. There are, however, numerous issues to do with the pilgrimage and the Al Sa'ud government. In sum, one can say that it has become the Americans' nest of corruption, in that they have brought everything under their control. They have imposed their control over political, economic and religious issues.

On the one hand, they became present in a sacred Islamic land. This was unprecedented, as the infidels should not be present in that land. However, the Americans came and found a foothold there. On the other hand, they invariably interfere in different issues. With a single telephone call to Fahd about the purchase of passenger planes, Clinton tells him to buy Boeing; otherwise, relations are going to be affected. Just by this threat, a $6 million aircraft purchase deal is suddenly made. Clinton receives his commission from the companies concerned, while at the same time about 300,000 jobs are created in the American aircraft industry, which is saved from bankruptcy for at least several years. This is all done by one single telephone call.

This is what the situation is like. When we say that Muslims should not be abject, this is what we mean. What abjectness can be greater that what I just described? What I said merely concerned intervention in economic issues.

We have, moreover, their intervention in large and small issues. I have a guess, which I consider as very close to reality, that in respect of the cancellation of the disavowal of infidels ceremonies, the support and the insistence of the Americans must certainly be taken into account, alongside the fact that the Wahhabi clerics and the Al Sa'ud rulers are not very keen on the staging of such events anyway.

Another issue is that a strange situation has been created there, in that a group of Najd clerics, who are in fact the most reactionary clerics Islam has seen, seek to impose their ideas, with the support of the Saudi leaders, on about 1.2 billion Muslims and deprive them of freedom of action. They want everyone to follow what they consider as Islam and refrain from what they term non-Islamic. This does not follow any logic, given what Islam says about the two holy shrines.

According to Islam's point of view, these shrines are international Islamic centers. [passage omitted] Instead of belonging to one single group, these shrines belong to all Muslims. If a government rules that land, it should only serve the Muslims. It is not authorized to interfere in the way that the Muslims fulfill their obligations and perform their rituals and worship. That state is there merely to serve Muslims.

Despite this Islamic point of view, they prevent Muslims from performing what in their opinion constitutes a diversion, an innovation, and an act of infidelity. This does not only affect the Shiites, as the majority of Muslims believe in the principle of the blessings which are induced by the act of visiting shrines and offering prayers at sacred tombs. They, however, oppose all these. This a tragedy, and something must be done about it. If these clerics had been anything but extremely reactionary and fanatic, then we could have invited them to an Islamic congress to discuss these issues in the presence of all Islamic scholars. However, they are not prepared to say even one word about these issues, as they claim that whatever they say is the absolute truth. [passage omitted]

The other issue concerns the Saudi leaders' incompetence in managing the affairs of the holy shrines. One aspect of this concerns safeguarding people's lives. It is not a small matter when a pilgrim, who has travelled thousands of kilometers from Africa or east Asia to have his one chance of a lifetime to go on pilgrimage, is suddenly killed under the crowd stampede. How can one justify that? What I saw with my own two eyes smacked of mismanagement. Imagine the situation where there are about a million people around, half of whom are going towards Jamarat while the other half are returning from the site. The two crowds suddenly collide, while cars and their escorts are also trying to get by. People wonder what they do as they are being pushed around. The volume of the crowd naturally causes people to fall, and once they fall, they cannot get up, until their corpses are evacuated. [passage omitted]

What judgment are the people of the world going to pass when they witness all these scenes in a center where Islam and its culture is manifesting itself? This can be called by no other term but mismanagement.

Another issue, which is of paramount importance, is the widespread corruption of the Saudi ruling class. The whole world, except the extremely ignorant, knows that they indulge in the most grand debauchery and spend the greatest amount of money to satisfy their carnal desires. The scandals are numerous, but it is not right for me, as the preacher present at Friday prayers sermon premises, to talk about them. I leave these to the press. Perhaps when the flow of their money to the Zionist press stops, these newspapers will then disclose more of these matters.

On the basis of these clear issues, one must ask whether these people are suitable for managing the affairs of the two holy shrines. [passage omitted]

It is the pious who should manage the holy shrines. Not everyone can take up such a duty. This is the place for the pious, for holy Abraham and for worshipping one single God. [passage omitted]

God, then, ordered Abraham to keep the shrines pure and clean. What impurity can be worse than the fact that a number of corrupt and profligate individuals, who have built themselves places for debauchery and vice all over the world, are ruling that sacred land? That is also one such tragedy that we face there.

Another issue is that of the minorities in Saudi Arabia who are mainly Shiite. Some have been expelled from Iraq, and the Saudis themselves put them in such a miserable situation. There are also Shiites who live in Sharqiyah, living in very bad conditions indeed. Extraordinary restrictions are imposed on them. They are not allowed to publish or obtain books. Their bookshop has been closed down. What kind of logic is it, that a group of people are not allowed to write religious books and write about their religious duties in order to give them to their children to read?. Which part of the world accepts that? But, if we make a wrong move—and sometimes even if we do not—they raise a hue and cry and blow their horns that human rights are being violated here, but that it does not matter if they are violated there—even when it concern a cultural or religious issue.

The minorities cannot establish a seminary; they are not allowed to build a mosque; they are not allowed to have a bookshop. Those are some of the ugly and shameful restrictions imposed on cultural and religious matters. What can be done? Why do they behave so badly towards them? What is the offense of those refugees? Some of those refugees who are seeking asylum are told they should become a Wahhabi first.

The first condition is that a person should become a Wahhabi before seeking asylum. Where in the world could you find such words or the imposition of such ideas, such weak-minded ideas? But the world has shut up because Saudi Arabia is where the dollar is and is the center of oil money, and it is giving it away to shut them up. Therefore, to the West, everything Saudi Arabia does conforms to human rights.

Another issue, which constitutes my final remarks in this sermon, is the speech of Fahd on 'Id al-'Adha this year. Each year heads of various pilgrimage groups from different countries are invited to go and see Fahd on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha. This was done very simply in previous years and nothing was mentioned. But this year, all of a sudden, his excellency made a long speech, which newspapers also reported, on various issues and services in Medina and Mecca. One part of the speech was about the services and another dealt with political issues in Somalia, Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina and also one part was about Iran.

On the issue of Iran, he mentioned the issue of the three islands and said that Iran should observe international agreements and human rights and so on. Very well, our first question is: you have always condemned us and placed a cordon around us saying that political issues should not be raised here during the pilgrimage. What was your speech about then? Was it not a political speech? Why are you raising political issues? [passage omitted]

Then on the Iranian affairs, always when those Saudi gentlemen are under pressure, in order to make a payoff to their masters, they immediately raise certain issues headed by the issue of the three islands. They think when they say a few words then all problems are solved. They themselves know that the issue of the islands is nothing that could be solved with a speech or a statement. Basically there is no problem to be solved. They are stirring trouble. They want to blackmail us. They want to blackmail us that if you do not do this or that, then we will raise the issue of the three islands. That is the issue; otherwise, the UAE itself is not so persistent on this and they themselves are perhaps conscious that we are right. But the Saudis are stirring up trouble. They have become the region's agent provocateur now. They bully Yemen, they bully Qatar, they bully the UAE, and they also intend to bully us.

In any case, those are some of the issues, and we hope that one day a pious government rules that holy land so that the Muslim people who go to holy Mecca could perform their religious duties as God wishes. [crowd chants: "God is great," "Death to America," "Death to Israel]

Jannati Delivers Second Sermon

LD1006155694 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1054 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Second Friday prayers sermon by Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, member of the Council of Guardians and acting Friday prayers leader, in Tehran on 10 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The esteemed leader has recently issued orders that financial corruption in the administrative organization should be dealt with. It is a clear command. He has issued orders to one powerful organization about discovery and information, and has given orders to a powerful judicial organization about judgement and legal investigation. God willing, I hope those two organizations act strongly, as the leader wishes.

That is one of our fundamental problems. It is one of the deep-rooted evil deeds which I am talking about, this financial corruption in the administrative organization. It has crippled, really crippled, many areas. Once it is dealt with we hope that that corruption is eradicated. [passage omitted]

And let me offer my thanks here for the matter of price tagging which they have carried out. It is a very good thing that has been done. But several points must be considered. One is that it should be pursued. It should not be mere words and then disappear; it should not be for one or two months but for always. The officials carrying out the policy as well as the judiciary system should take the matter seriously. That is most necessary.

Another is that they should not busy themselves with trivial issues. If, for instance, a barrowman sells potatoes at 5 rials more expensive than the rate, they should not harass him, just like the former chamber of trades, and just deal with those poor street vendors. They should trap the big overchargers and bring them to book. Dealing with trivial matters dissipates the forces. [passage omitted]

Commentary Voices Doubts on Pricing Policy

NC1306183394 Tehran JAHAN-E ESLAM in Persian 6 Jun 94 p 2

[Commentary by 'Ali Feyz: "The Pricing Plan"]

[Text] Putting price labels on consumer goods has become compulsory. But apparently both the sellers and the buyers doubt the positive impact of this plan; and the question is why? The initial impression was that at least the buyers would have welcomed this plan, which would at least clear up matters. But this is not what happened. The sellers also have their specific reasons for considering this plan impractical and temporary. In order to explain these stances, we should consider the psychology of Iranian society. This society has learned that there is no stability in decision-makings and that such acts are more of a propaganda nature rather than facts. Therefore, both the buyers and the sellers consider this plan to be temporary; and if the government makes them observe the tagging of goods, both sides will continue to be careless.

Moreover, the pricing policy and tagging is facing a more serious problem. Prices cannot be kept low artificially. An economy based on a free market follows specific laws. Profit is the main factor in the market and something which cannot tolerate any laws or limitations. And each time the government exerts pressures from the outside, goods are very easily moved underground and under-the-table deals are made. And this situation, which is known as black marketeering, will thrive in Iran. It is surprising how this policy has been tested so many times and proven to be insufficient, yet it is not given up. Iran's business economy is not in a situation where it can be controlled. Part of the well-off society in Iran wants to show off. The purchasing power of these so-called nouveaux-riches is so high that the black market business cannot fail to thrive. It is not a secret to anyone that there is a shortage of goods in many fields. Therefore, the more goods that are taken underground, the higher their prices and the demand for them will be. In such a situation how can one hope that the pricing plan and the tagging of goods will be successful?

The fact that the existing high prices of goods and services have roots that go deeper than mere profiteering should not be ignored. The production of many goods is not as high as demand, and imports are facing many fluctuations because of the great problems with foreign exchange. It is because of this that fluctuations in the foreign exchange rates immediately affect prices. If we consider that the tagging of goods as the government intends will work, each salesman will have to sit down and watch how the dollar rate is fluctuating. Is this really possible?! It is quite doubtful. As long as the necessary balance between production and consumption or between the shortage of goods and imports is absent, no pricing policy will help to stabilize prices. We have experienced this several times in the past. This time too, we are experimenting with this unsuccessful experience.

The very fact that both the buyers and the sellers have not taken this plan seriously automatically shows that there is lack of confidence in it. And since this is the case, it is surprising that a pricing policy which both sides looked on with mistrust has been adopted. We think that this policy does not conform with the true economic conditions in the country and is nothing more than a temporary measure. But if it turn out the opposite, then we should say that something is very wrong in society, and this will be an exception that cannot be explained by any economic criterion. At any rate, these comments should not be interpreted as a saying that pricing is completely useless. The issue is one of economic realities, in which pricing is one of the various outcomes of production and is completely different from political decision- making.

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